

March 16, 2016

Dear Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Families,

I am writing to let you know about a serious situation that occurred at our upper (Monroe) campus shortly after school began today.

I'm sorry to tell you that an unloaded handgun was found in a student's locker following a tip that was reported to staff.

My staff and I responded to the report by putting the school into a lockdown. We called police, moved students out of the hallways and into locked rooms, and began a search. The Saint Paul Police Department responded immediately, and within 15 minutes they found and secured the gun following a search of the student's locker. Police took a student into custody without any issues and are continuing to investigate.

During the 15-minute lockdown classroom instruction continued as usual. There were no known threats directed at anyone in our school community.

We take situations like this seriously and will follow our discipline procedures as outlined in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. As a reminder, Minnesota state law and Saint Paul Public Schools has a zero tolerance policy for possession of firearms on school campus.

Schools are safe places to be and we strive to do everything it takes to make sure it stays that way. We also need your help. Please assure your child that it is important for them to report any concerns they have about school to a trusted adult. We are grateful that this was brought to the attention of staff so quickly.

If you have any questions or other concerns about school, please call me at 651-293-8690. Thank you for supporting your child and Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

Sincerely,

Bryan E. Bass, Principal
Linwood Monroe Arts Plus