

Maple Valley Schools

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Dear Families of Maple Valley,

We wanted to provide an update on the incident that occurred on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at Maplewood Elementary.

We understand the legitimate fear and concern of our community and want to reassure everyone of a few things so we can continue learning and engaging in our normal routines. While we cannot disclose details, we can assure you of the following.

- 1. There was no direct risk to students or staff.
- 2. There is no current risk to the safety of students or staff.
- 3. We have social workers and counselors in every building and staff knows to refer any students who may have worries or concerns. We encourage kids or parents to reach out to our staff for support if needed.
- 4. Because our protocols worked as designed, everyone was safe. Our staff did a phenomenal job of following their training to contain any risk.
- 5. Eaton County responded immediately and we value their partnership and support. They also did thorough follow up inspections to ensure safety.

I understand the need to make sense of any level of threat to the safety of our students and in conjunction with our law enforcement partners I can assure you this has been well handled and our system of justice and school safety are being followed. This matter was turned over to law enforcement and referred to the Eaton County Prosecutor's Office.

Please reach out to us if you have any need for additional support.

Regards,

Katherine Bertolini Superintendent

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