

October 8, 2016

Dear Grand View Families,

Thank you for all of the support and conversations around the recent events at Grand View. I have consulted with our mental health team in order to provide our parents with some opportunities for speaking with their children.

When we are faced with any upsetting news, there is no simple answer. Naturally, there will be responses and emotions ranging from curiosity, sadness, and even alarm. Parents can get a glimpse into how their children are processing information by being open, honest, and reassuring.

Please make sure to recognize any behavior that you believe may need additional support. We have both a school counselor and a school psychologist on campus available to assist your child.

Suggested Talking Points

1. Provide the honest facts. For example, *“Very old bullets found in a closet have been removed.”*
2. Validate feelings. Acknowledge and encourage your children to express their feelings.
3. Provide comfort. Remind children that the adults at school and at home are doing everything to keep them safe. Their safety is our number one priority.
4. Respect privacy. Whenever there is any investigation and we don't know all the facts, it is important to protect the privacy of individuals. Rumors are hurtful and harmful. In any workplace, it is common for any employee under review to take time off during the investigative process.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Gratefully,

Nancy Doyle
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