## **Subject: Important Follow-up Message to Families**

## Dear Klickitat Families,

The safety of students and staff is always our top priority. I want to be sure you are aware that the secure and teach protocol initiated earlier at Klickitat School District <u>has been lifted</u>. I'm writing to provide you with some follow up information on the incident and our response.

This morning, as a safety precaution, our school was placed in temporary secure and teach status due to suspicious activity near our campus.

Students and staff were asked to remain indoors as a safety precaution. The office remained on the line with 9-1-1 dispatch while administration monitored our grounds outside, waiting for law enforcement to arrive.

Shortly after 9:20 a.m. this morning, high school students and staff reported to the school office that there was a suspicious person(s) near the apartments below campus and that these person(s) may have weapons. Upon hearing this, office staff immediately called law enforcement to report the suspicious activity while school administrators secured our gates & exterior doors. Students and staff stayed safely indoors as a precaution. The office remained on the line with 9-1-1 dispatch while administrators monitored our grounds outside, waiting for law enforcement to arrive.

We are thankful for law enforcement's quick response to our school to make sure there was no threat to safety on campus before they quickly made contact with the suspicious individuals. Officers made a sweep of our outdoor property and have since provided us with the "all clear" while they complete their investigation of the off-campus incident.

I understand that initiating a secure and teach protocol can be unsettling for everyone, even if it is just a precautionary measure. We hold the safety of students and staff as our highest priority, and today's response is an example of this commitment. Thank you for your support and please let me know if you have any questions.

Kendrick Lester Superintendent

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