



January 29, 2019

**Monica E. Goldson, Ed.D.**

*Interim Chief Executive Officer*

Dear Prince George's County Public Schools Community:

As a district, ensuring the safety of students is a foremost concern. Oftentimes, our responsibility for the welfare and safety of students extends beyond the school day when students are on campus for after-school programs, athletics, and other school-sponsored activities. It is in this effort that I wanted to share with you the proactive measures that are taken outside of school hours to safeguard students.

All district policies, procedures and school rules remain in place after an extension of the normal school day. As required during the normal school day, the expectation is that students are not left unattended. Staff are trained on emergency plan protocols and the required steps in the event that an emergency occurs after school hours. Additionally, before and after care sites maintain student medications and allergy list, flashlights, stocked first aid kits and student emergency contact information.

Limiting campus access protects students both during the day and after school. We have been intentional about assessing and evaluating our campuses, with an emphasis on limiting access to schools. This year, a security assessment was conducted at every school and facility in PGCPS and the results were shared with principals and administrators to show where improvements were needed. A second audit will be conducted before the close of this school year. Only students involved with authorized after-school activities are permitted on school premises after the end of the school day. Students who loiter after school hours without involvement could be subjected to disciplinary action.

Site coordinators will assess any situation involving students and/or staff and file the appropriate reports to internal and external agencies for appropriate next steps. Parents are immediately notified of incidents through appropriate communication mediums to include telephone, robocall and website notification.

PGCPS institutes a variety of security measures at all times including locked exterior doors, video surveillance, the presence of school security personnel, and mandatory check-in procedures at school entrances. PGCPS will continue to improve facilities, refine practices and continue training with the expectation of being ever vigilant of student safety. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monica E. Goldson".

Monica E. Goldson, Ed.D.

Interim Chief Executive Officer