



CARSON GRAHAM
SECONDARY

May 5, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians:

RE: Student safety advisory—unsanctioned grad activities

With the lead up to graduation now underway, I am writing to you with an important safety advisory regarding unsanctioned activities in which some students may choose to participate, independent of the school community, at this time of year.

“Unsanctioned” social activities may include events like house parties, camp-outs and other gatherings. It’s important that parents do their own research and confirm the safety precautions and supervision that will be provided at these events or trips as they are organized and operated without the involvement of our school and staff. This research is important, as it’s our understanding that supervision may be inadequate for the type of event that has been planned.

Particular activities, known as “grad kidnaps” are of increasing concern. Parents may not be aware of the risks they pose to students and the community. “Grad kidnaps” involve students arranging, amongst themselves and unsanctioned by the school, to “kidnap” other students for several hours or longer. The organizers may then proceed to lead their “captive” through a series of activities, which may include vandalism or safety risks. We have heard that some parents are aware of, and may even facilitate, these “kidnaps”. This is of serious concern. Alcohol is often a factor, and only serves to impair judgment and heighten the risks involved.

As a school, it’s essential that we maintain and operate a safe environment for student learning. Students who arrive at school intoxicated will not be admitted to class, and parents will be contacted to pick up their child and have them taken home. Similarly, students who are acting disruptively, are dressed inappropriately or are behaving in ways that are disrespectful to themselves or others will be held fully accountable for their actions.

Grad activities are meant to be a time of celebration, but those celebrations must be safe ones. It’s especially important, at this time of year when concerns for student safety are heightened, that you be aware of your child’s social activities and support them in making the right choices for their own well-being, and for sake of the greater community.

Thank you for reading this message. If you have any questions about grad events, sanctioned or otherwise, please feel free to contact our main office for clarification.

Sincerely,

Karim Hachlaf
Principal

