November 23, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

First, we'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to our students and families for your patience and thoughtfulness following the incident that occured last week at the High School. We were grateful to have the opportunity to connect with so many of you during family conferences last week to share additional information and be in community with one another.

As you know, we initiated several safety measures in response to this incident including student assemblies, increased staff presence in hallways and bathroom areas, and searching student backpacks upon entry. We'd like to share updates from those efforts and preview a few next steps.

- On Friday and Monday, staff performed bag checks for all students at morning entry. There were no incidents following these checks and no improper or unsafe items were found.
- We will be discontinuing whole-school searches for the time being (based on legal restrictions related to searching students' belongings). As per our Student and Family Handbook, we will continue to perform a bag check in situations when there is reasonable suspicion that the student has broken the law or a school rule.
- For the foreseeable future, students will not be able to take their bags and belongings off campus with them during privilege periods. As you know, 11th and 12th grade students may go off campus during lunch period; students will now be required to leave their belongings with staff, or store them in their lockers when going off campus.
- On Tuesday, November 30th, we will be hosting a parent/family community meeting from 5:30 - 7:00 PM. Please join us for the opportunity to discuss and share feedback on security decisions. You will also be able to join our Parent-Teacher Organization at this meeting.

We remain committed to ensuring students' and community safety and well-being. And we commit to keeping this and their learning at the heart of our work. If you have questions, please reach out to the school at 617-326-3574.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Ure
Dean of Students