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August 28, 2013

Dear Clark County School District Families:

The safety of students is the number one priority on every Clark County School District (CCSD) campus. As always, we want to keep you informed of important issues happening within the community. We are deeply saddened to report that earlier today a CCSD student was approached by a stranger and assaulted on one of our school campuses, prior to the start of school. The student was able to get help and law enforcement immediately responded to take the suspect into custody.

While schools remain a safe place for children, this incident serves as an important opportunity to remind our students of safe practices when walking to and from school. Parents are reminded to take precautions due to the shortening of daylight hours as the summer season ends.

CCSD offers the following tips for parents to share with their children:

- Remind and encourage your children to walk and/or bicycle with family and/or friends to and from school.
- Know with whom your child is walking or bicycling, and his or her normal route to school.
- Walk or ride with younger children and occasionally accompany older children to school, or monitor their route.
- Remind your children not to take short cuts through, or play alone in, desert areas.
- Let your children know that police officers are there to help them. Teach them how to identify police by their uniforms and vehicles.
- Talk with your child about safety and violence prevention. Discuss incidents and how they might have been avoided, along with constructive choices that could have resulted in a more positive outcome to a situation.
- Instruct your child to never accept candy, money, gifts or any other items from strangers.
- Instruct your child to never get into a car or any enclosed or partially-enclosed location, such as a garage or alley, with a stranger. Never hitchhike.

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- Stress the importance of protesting and running away if a stranger tries to take your child or entice your child into his or her car.
- Instruct your child not to use a public restroom while alone.
- Advise your child on safe places to go in the event of danger.

Additional safety information is included on pages 8-9 in the *Back to School Reporter*, which was distributed to all students on the first day of school. The publication is also available online, in both English and Spanish, at CCSD.net/district/news/publications.

The safety of our students is of utmost importance. Please report any suspicious activity to the local police department and/or school administrators.

Thank you for your assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's school should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Pat Skorkowsky

Superintendent of Schools

"Every student in every classroom, without exceptions, without excuses"