



3755 Church Street
Zachary, LA 70791
225.658.4969
Fax 225.658.5261
www.zacharyschools.org

November 5, 2021

Dear Zachary High School Parents,

In light of the recent issues on our high school campus, we want to assure our community that our students' safety and well-being remain our top priority. We are working daily to ensure that our students and staff have a safe and effective learning environment. Please know that we completely understand your concern, anger, and need for answers. Your emails and calls are being read, heard, and taken to heart.

The Zachary Community School District is making a concerted effort to be even more vigilant by responding to these incidents in accordance with state law and board policy. We will continue to work on solutions to this problem.

- Zachary High School administration has held class meetings to reiterate the school expectations and zero-tolerance policy for fighting.
 - The zero-tolerance policy has been and will continue to be enforced to the maximum extent possible by law.
 - Zachary High School has been and will continue to recommend expulsion for this type of behavior.
- Last week, the Zachary Community School District added a third ZPD resource officer on the high school campus.
- The Zachary Community School District Discipline Policy Review Committee, which is made up of parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, and a board representative, met on November 3, 2021 to address discipline policy and concerns.
- Our administration, school counselors, and social workers work diligently with students on maintaining positive relationships, conflict resolution, and problem-solving. Our staff is available to help students resolve conflicts or issues before they become larger problems.
 - The Zachary Community School District is also expanding its social worker/counseling services through contracted providers.
- Our administration, teachers, staff, and resource officers are actively on duty and supervising our students daily.



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- More than 170 cameras cover our high school campus, and we continue to add and upgrade these cameras.
- The Zachary Community School District utilizes a safe school alert anonymous online tip reporting system. <https://zacharyschools-la.safeschoolsalert.com/>.
 - All ZHS students and community members are asked to please report anything they see, hear, or know that could pose a safety threat to our school.
- Additional guidelines have been implemented for extracurricular/sporting events as well as additional coverage by staff and security.
- The Zachary Community School District actively verifies the residency of students enrolled in our schools.
 - If you know of any student not residing in our district, please notify us at the School Board Main Office at 225-658-4969, via email, monte.burke@zacharyschools.org, or via our anonymous safe school alert system.

Our high school is populated by amazing, successful, hard-working students and staff. We will not allow a VERY small percentage of students to disrupt their safe learning environment and after-school events.

At this time, we are more vigilant than ever and will continue to seek and implement ways to curtail this type of behavior. We ask parents to please talk to your students at home about expectations at school and school events. Please assure them that we will do everything to keep them safe. In addition, remind them of the consequences of their actions on campus and social media.

Your help and input are truly invaluable to us. Therefore, we will host a town hall meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 8, 2021, at the Zachary High School Visual and Performing Arts Center. This town hall meeting is an opportunity to learn more about our efforts in providing a safe environment for your children and an opportunity for you to provide input on addressing these concerns.

Thank you,

Scott Devillier, Superintendent