



Estacada High School

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Richard Slater
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February 22, 2009

Dear Families, Students, and Staff:

Last Thursday, February 19th, we were able to accomplish two of our goals designed to make Estacada High School a safe environment for all. With the assistance of the Clackamas County Sheriff's office and the Molalla Police Department we successfully conducted a "Lockdown" drill and carried out a random drug dog search. In an effort to prevent rumors of that day's events, I would like to share with all of you what took place.

Every school building in our district has developed a handbook for emergencies with protocols for a variety of situations that could possibly happen in our schools. Throughout the year we try and practice certain procedures in order to be better prepared in the unfortunate event that we may experience such emergencies. Every month we conduct fire drills and bi-annually we have earthquake drills in our schools. In addition, we practice our "lockdown" drill at random times during the school year.

Last Thursday at 12:30 p.m. we announced, via our PA system, that we were going into a "Level 2 Lockdown Drill." Upon such a notification teachers are asked to keep their students in their rooms, check the halls for any students and bring them into their rooms, and to lock their doors until further notice. Our staff then continues to communicate via email the whereabouts of any missing or found students. After accounting for each student the teachers resume teaching their lessons during the drill.

While the "Lockdown" drill was being conducted we were able to have two drug dogs from Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and the Molalla Police Department go through our halls, two randomly selected classrooms, and a few dozen randomly selected vehicles in our parking lots. We provide prior notice of these random searches in our student handbook and utilize them to send a strong message that we do not tolerate drug use, sale, or possession on our campus.

Thankfully, our drill went well and it enabled us to detect a few adjustments that we need to make in our manual. Also, we are proud to announce that we had NO positive hits by the dogs.

I would like to thank the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, the Molalla Police Department, the entire staff, and student body of EHS for making this a successful exercise. A special thank you also goes to our School Resource Officer (SRO) Deputy Steve Funk for organizing and obtaining the drug dogs for our use.

If you should have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at 503.630.8515.

Sincerely,

Scott Sullivan
Co-Principal
Estacada High School