

**Mike Miles**  
Superintendent of Schools



*Educating All Students For Success*

December 19, 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety of our students is always a top priority at W.T. White High School. Our campus staff and security personnel work very hard every day to ensure that the learning environment remains safe. When issues of concern are brought to our attention, we feel it is important to share them with you. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of a serious incident that occurred earlier today.

During fourth period, one of our students came into possession of a backpack containing a gun. The backpack was given to him by a non-student. The student immediately took the backpack to a teacher. The teacher secured the backpack in a locked area and immediately notified the campus officer and principal. The backpack containing the gun was secured by the campus officer. The student was taken into custody.

An incident like this one coupled with the recent tragedy in Connecticut have caused us to thoroughly review our safety efforts. The chief of the Dallas ISD Police Department has pledged the resources necessary to maintain an increased security presence. In addition, we will need to be more meticulous with our entry and exit points. While this may slow down entry to the school, it is necessary to make sure that students, staff and visitors remain safe on our campus at all times. Unfortunately, the actions of a very few individuals are having an impact on us all.

We sincerely appreciate the patience of both parents and students as we work through this very unfortunate situation. Our students have been very good about alerting us to any potential safety issues and we are hopeful that will continue. We are scheduling a community meeting for tomorrow, Thursday, at 5:30 p.m. in the school library to discuss campus safety. Our goal, as always, is to maintain a safe and secure environment so that we can prepare your students for college and the workforce.

Thank you for your continued support of W.T. White High School. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at 972-502-6200.

Sincerely,

Michelle Thompson  
Principal  
W.T. White High School

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