

Westville Public School

Independent District I-11
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Staff, students and community,

Westville Public Schools would like to follow up on the incident that happened on Thursday, February 23rd. We held a debriefing for staff on Friday, February 24th. During that meeting we shared with staff the events and action taken by the administration during the incident. We were very thankful that the incident ended quickly and without anyone getting hurt.

As with any situation we had to step back and take a look at our procedures and protocols. This was part of the debriefing process. This was conducted with the administration team and then with the entire staff. This process was very helpful in identifying the weaknesses of the procedures followed. The meeting was a very positive interaction between staff and administration. We are also debriefing the Junior High and High School students today.

Several things were mentioned such as metal detectors, clear backpacks, lock down procedures, shelter in place, code words, Stop It app, Rave App, more self defense training and de escalation training.

We are reviewing all of these suggestions and more. The Shelter in Place is something that we will practice and implement for future situations. This would have allowed the elementary to stay in their rooms and get them off the playground while a possible threat is being accessed.

I want to assure you that at the time of the incident and during the process that we were confident the threat was contained and that's why we didn't go into lockdown. With that being said the information gathered during the debriefing is that we will use the shelter in place and lock down certain areas in the future.

All situations and incidents are not the same but we learned an important lesson and we will continue to do everything in our power to protect our children and staff at Westville Public Schools.

Thank you,



Terry Heustis