

September 14, 2021

Dear Henry Clay High School Families:

One of my top priorities as the principal at Henry Clay High School is ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. Maintaining open lines of communication between home and school is critical in order for us to maintain the trust of our families and build strong relationships with the people we serve.

Following an investigation that lasted past dismissal this afternoon, we determined that one of our students had a steak knife in his backpack at school today. The knife was classified as a deadly weapon and the student was arrested and charged with possession of a weapon on school property. The student will face serious administrative consequences through the school district, and we will be filing criminal charges as well.

We are still investigating how the student was able to bring the knife on campus and will take appropriate steps to address any deficiencies in our safety procedures. As you know, our school implemented walk-through metal detectors this year as part of our multi-pronged approach to campus safety.

We continue to believe that one of the most important preventive measures is the practice of encouraging students to report safety concerns to trusted adults. This is an example of the power of good communication working, because our administrative team was able to take action to ensure the safety of our students.

Any time we have a health or safety issue on campus, we want to be sure our families have the most accurate information directly from us. We are committed to keeping Henry Clay High School a safe place to learn and work.

Thank you for the privilege of serving your family and for understanding that we take this matter very seriously. As always, please don't hesitate to call me with questions or concerns at 859-381-3423.

Sincerely,

Paul Little, principal