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GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
AUGUST AHRENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
94-1170 WAIPAHAU STREET
WAIPAHAU, HI 96797

March 1, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

At August Ahrens Elementary, the safety of your child is of utmost concern.

This letter is to inform you about an incident that occurred this morning at approximately 11:30 a.m. A lockdown message was sent in error over the campus intercom system. No lockdown was warranted, however, and there were no threats to our campus at any time. A correction was sent within 15 minutes and a School Connect message was sent to parents shortly thereafter.

The issue originated at our Alternative Center that houses our district educational program. Procedures require that classrooms adjacent to the Alternative Center sometimes be locked to minimize interruptions to the learning program. Today, the adjacent classrooms were requested to lock their doors as part of this routine procedure. Staff hearing the message on radio communications misinterpreted the situation and mistakenly initiated a lockdown alert. To be clear, there was no threat and the lockdown alert was sent in error.

Our administration has implemented new procedures to ensure this unnecessary alert does not occur again. I would like to commend our staff, teachers and students for their quick action and cooperation. Our counselors will be available to help any students and school personnel who may need assistance.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call our office at (808) 307-7200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hanh Nguyen".

Hanh Nguyen
Principal