

The School District of Hernando County, Florida

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This week, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office released more information regarding the incident involving a comment made by a Fox Chapel Middle School teacher on March 24th. As part of that release details, not previously known by the school district, appear in conflict with information gathered at the time of the incident.

In light of this additional information, the school district will continue to investigate the incident and require further involvement by mental health experts. As part of our investigation, we will take a hard look at all the actions that were taken on that day, and in the days following the incident, and determine if any steps were missed. As is our longstanding practice, while the matter is under investigation, the teacher will be removed from all student contact and, pending the outcome of the district's review, no date has been determined for a return to duty. The teacher continues to cooperate fully with district officials.

The school district has dedicated a tremendous amount of time and resources toward implementing outstanding school safety protocols. As part of our safety practice, conclusions drawn from this incident may lead to consideration of additional safeguards.

On behalf of the school district and school board, I want to assure the Fox Chapel family that we hear your concerns on this matter and that all actions will be taken to ensure the campus is safe.

Thank you.

John Stratton
Superintendent of Schools