



DANIEL CUMMINGS  
Principal

JOSE L. PARRA, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

September 15, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Independent clauses require a comma between them.

The plural subject "safety and well-being" requires the plural verb "are."

In Irving ISD and at MacArthur High School, your child's safety and well-being is always our top priority, and we want to maintain open, honest and timely communication with you. If there was ever an imminent threat to your child, we would take immediate and necessary precautions, and we would inform you immediately.

The past subjunctive requires "were."

This sentence suggests that you knew the item posed no threat, because you didn't take the immediate and necessary precaution of evacuating the school and summoning a bomb-disposal unit.

While we **do not have** any threats to our school community, we want you to be aware that the Irving Police Department responded to a suspicious-looking item on campus yesterday. We are pleased to report that after the police department's assessment, the item discovered at school did not pose a threat to your child's safety.

It didn't pose a threat before the assessment either. You should have written, "...the police department's assessment determined that..."

Our school is cooperating fully with the ongoing police investigation, and we are handling the situation in accordance with the Irving ISD Student Code of Conduct and applicable laws. Please rest assured that we will always take necessary steps to keep our school as safe as possible.

Does prohibiting homebuilt electronics projects signal that the Irving ISD doesn't want its students to engage in self-directed advanced learning?

All your other sentences have only one space between them.

I recommend using this opportunity to talk with your child about the Student Code of Conduct and specifically not bringing items to school that are prohibited. Also, this is a good time to remind your child how important it is to immediately report any suspicious items and/or suspicious behavior they observe to any school employee so we can address it right away. We will always take necessary precautions to protect our students.

This sentence unnecessarily repeats the same thought stated less concisely at the end of the preceding paragraph.

Thank you for your understanding and support of MacArthur High School as we do everything we can for your child's safety.

You succeeded in using apostrophes in the rest of this letter. Why did you use a foot mark here?

Sincerely,

Dan Cummings