

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

159 THORNDIKE STREET CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141



January 7, 1999

Mr. Robert W. Healy
Cambridge City Manager
Cambridge City Hall
750 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

RECEIVED
JAN - 8 AM 8:56
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Dear Mr. Healy,

In Response to Council Order #001, dated 10/26/98

RE: Develop a Process to Notify Parents in a Timely Manner of Community Alerts

We welcome the opportunity to share the following information with you and members of the Cambridge City Council.

In order to provide a safe and secure environment for all of our children; and to be certain that all families are notified of significant incidents, we have established an Administrative Response Team (ART) in each school. Each ART is a school-based professional team which takes a multidisciplinary approach to problem-solving. By coordinating closely with the office of the Superintendent of Schools, the ART places great emphasis on local problem resolution while striving for consistent responsiveness throughout the school system.

All teams have had three training sessions and will complete their training on January 22, 1999 with the fourth and final morning. The goal of each Administrative Response Team is to respond appropriately, and in a coordinated manner, to situations which affect, or have the potential to affect, the educational, social, psychological or physical well-being of our schools and the communities which they serve.

In addition, to the above, we continue to hold the "Memorandum of Agreement" with the Cambridge Police Department. This document continues to guide us in matters that require collaboration and cooperation with representatives of the police department. We respect the decisions and work of the police and we generally follow their advice in issuing "community alerts."

Finally, through the Office of the Director of Safety and Security, we involve the Cambridge Police and Fire Departments in all matters that are deemed suitable for their notice. We have forged solid working relationships with these departments and rely on them for guidance in more difficult situations.

Please call me at 349-6494 if you need any additional information about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bobbie D'Alessandro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and a clear 'D'.

Bobbie D'Alessandro
Superintendent of Schools



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307



3.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

January 25, 1999

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 5, regarding a report on developing a process to notify parents in a timely manner of "community alerts", received from Superintendent of Schools Bobbie D'Alessandro.

In addition, the Police Department will issue a "community alert" of an incident and provide copies, as soon as possible, to the Superintendent of Schools' office and to the School Department's Security Director. The School Department will then distribute to the respective school's parents the "community alert" if necessary.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #3

S-528

Relative to AR #5 regarding a
report on developing a process to
notify parents in a timely manner
of "community alerts."

In City Council January 25, 1999

PLACED ON FILE