



Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

50 Court Street, Flemington, NJ 08822

www.frsd.k12.nj.us

September 6, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Police have alerted the District of a suspicious beige van in the Francis A. Desmares School area. A male driver approached children playing in the vicinity of the school on Monday afternoon. The male driver asked the children if they wanted to see a chair in the back of the van. The detective bureau is actively investigating and the prosecutor's office has been advised. Police are stepping up patrols in the area. Officer Darren Powell will be on patrol on site at Francis A. Desmares School. As always, we encourage all students, staff members, parents and families to remain alert at all times.

Please review the following strategies that may help your child recognize and respond to strangers, suspicious vehicles and other situations:

- Never approach or engage in conversations with strangers.
- Never open a door to a stranger without the permission of a trusted adult.
- When answering the phone, never tell a stranger that your parents/guardians are not home. Tell them that they can not come to the phone right now.
- Never approach or get into anyone's car without parent/guardian's permission.
- Remember strangers are not always suspicious. Always follow the same rules for dealing with strangers regardless of how nice, well-dressed, or respectable they may seem.
- Be alert to strangers who may ask for your help (have you seen my son, have you seen my dog, can you give me directions, etc.). Do not approach them or their cars.
- Do not take short cuts through or play in isolated or wooded areas. Always walk/play with your friends, not alone.
- Always let your parents/guardians know where you are.
- No adult should ever ask you to keep a secret that makes you feel uncomfortable. Always tell your parent/guardian.
- When online don't talk to strangers. Never give your full name, address, picture or phone number to someone you do not know. If someone makes you uncomfortable, notify your parents/guardians immediately.
- When away from your home without parents/guardians, always know the location of homes or businesses that you can go to in the event that you need help.
- If you feel threatened by a situation, LEAVE. If someone follows or touches you, run away and scream.
- If you see a stranger acting suspiciously, always tell a parent/guardian or trusted adult.

By following the simple tips above and remaining vigilant to suspicious behavior, we can work together to ensure the safety of our children and community.

Respectfully,
Dr. Kari McGann
Superintendent of Schools