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February 7, 2020

Dear Parents,

On January 24, 2020, the administration of the Zachary Community School District was informed of allegations involving a staff member that you may have seen on the news or social media. Immediately upon receiving a report of the allegations, the involved staff member was placed on leave and an investigation ensued. The Zachary Police Department was also immediately notified and began its investigation on that same date.

We understand that as parents, many of you have concerns about a lack of detail in our communications on this matter; however, as an active police investigation, a personnel matter, and a matter involving a minor child, what we can share with our Zachary school community is limited by both state and federal law. We have been and will continue to be as transparent as possible in accordance with our legal obligation to maintain the confidentiality and privacy rights to which we are statutorily bound. Additionally, we must ensure that our actions do not hinder the criminal investigation that is also underway through a coordinated effort between the Zachary Police Department and the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Office.

Please rest assured that all Zachary Community School District administrators, staff and faculty have acted and will continue to act in accordance with policies, procedures, and state and federal law to protect the interests of all students, including the minor child who is at the center of this matter. We understand this is an emotional time for everyone here in the Zachary community; and we hope this information provides you with some clarification and an understanding of the limitations on what we are able to share with the public.

We encourage parents to remind students that they should report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable to you and/or a trusted adult. The Zachary Community School District does not condone or tolerate any improper communications or conduct by staff towards a student. If information is ever presented to district and school personnel that any such improper communications or conduct has occurred, we will immediately investigate and take appropriate action as necessary, including notification to law enforcement when warranted.

The well-being and safety of all our students is a top priority of the Zachary Community School District; and we thank you for your continued understanding as this matter moves forward.

Sincerely,

Scott Devillier, Superintendent

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