## **Carderock Springs Elementary School**

7401 Persimmon Tree Lane Bethesda, MD 20817 240-740-0540 301-469-1115 (FAX)

Office of the Principal

October 5, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am writing to inform you about the arrest of Mr. Roy Andrew Simmons. Some students and staff may know him as "Andy." Mr. Simmons was a former temporary part-time paraeducator at Carderock Springs Elementary School who also held a position with Kids Adventures, a before/after-hours program located at the school. Mr. Simmons is charged with one count of second-degree assault and one count of fourth-degree sex offense. According to the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD), the charges stem from inappropriate contact with a student during the before/after-hours program.

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has been fully cooperating with Child Protective Services, MCPD, and the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office on this matter. Pursuant to our memorandum of understanding with these agencies and MCPS policies and regulations, MCPS has not shared any details broadly with the community until now to avoid prejudicing the ongoing investigation.

Mr. Simmons was immediately terminated from MCPS after the allegations of his actions were shared with the school.

These charges are deeply concerning and wholly unacceptable. They represent a violation of the core values of our school and school system. This type of behavior does not reflect the principles of MCPS or our community, and it will not be tolerated.

As always, we are committed to the well-being of all our students. A support team of school psychologists, counselors, and pupil personnel workers from MCPS will join with our staff on October 6, 2017 and will be available to provide counseling and support to students, as needed.

Ensuring a safe learning environment for our students is our top priority. If you or your child have any information that may be helpful to the investigation, I ask that you call the Special Victims Investigations Division of the Montgomery County Police Department at 240-773-5400.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>Jae\_W\_Lee@mcpsmd.org</u> and/or 240-740-0540 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

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Jae W. Lee, Principal Carderock Springs Elementary School