



JOHN BARTRAM HIGH SCHOOL

ACHIEVE, LEAD, and GROW...TOGETHER!!!

2401 S. 67th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19142

Office: 215-400-8100/Fax: 215-400-8101



Brian R. Johnson, Principal

Jennifer Reed, 9th/10th Grade Academy Asst. Principal
Courtney Carrington, 11th/12th Grade Asst. Principal

Chris Bowman, Climate Manager (9th Grade)
Keith Johnson, Climate Manager (10th Grade)
Vincent Garrett, Climate Manager (11th Grade)
Simone Knight, Climate Manager (12th Grade)

December 2, 2024

Additional Details Staff Follow-Up: Safety Incident and Next Steps 12.3.24

Dear Team,

Thank you again for your professionalism and composure during the incident before the break. I want to provide additional details about last Wednesday's events and outline the steps we've taken since then. While student confidentiality limits what I can share, I hope the following updates address some of your concerns.

Incident Recap and Actions Taken

During morning admission, the weapons detection system flagged a potential weapon in a student's backpack. Following established protocols, we initiated a lockdown and conducted a classroom-by-classroom search in collaboration with the Philadelphia Police Department, including the use of munitions detection dogs.

As a result of a thorough investigation involving our climate team, school safety officers, and police, we identified several students of interest. Today, a meeting with the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities resulted in a plan of action to hold students accountable according to the district's Code of Conduct. The accountability process began this morning.

Safety Protocol Review and Next Steps

We have reviewed our morning admissions procedures and conducted staff retraining to reinforce safety measures. A safety team meeting this morning identified next steps for school-wide safety initiatives. Additionally, our counseling team, STEP Team, and district prevention/intervention support personnel coordinated to provide long-term support for students and staff.

We will engage with community partners:

- **Network of Neighbors Meeting:** December 13, 2024 (actions TBD)
- **FPCN Collaboration:** December 16, 2024, 3:00–3:30 PM in the IMC (focused on mindfulness and stress reduction).

Additional long-term plans will be addressed in the new year.

Mental Health Support

The holiday season can heighten stress for both students and staff. To support well-being:

- **Counseling Space for Students:** Located in the IMC for those needing a talk to a trusted adult or peer. [JBHS Mental Health Resources Guide](#)
- **Staff Support:** Lyra Health professionals will be available on-site Tuesday and Wednesday in the parent conference room.



JOHN BARTRAM HIGH SCHOOL

ACHIEVE, LEAD, and GROW...TOGETHER!!!

2401 S. 67th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19142

Office: 215-400-8100/Fax: 215-400-8101

Brian R. Johnson, Principal

Jennifer Reed, 9th/10th Grade Academy Asst. Principal
Courtney Carrington, 11th/12th Grade Asst. Principal

Chris Bowman, Climate Manager (9th Grade)
Keith Johnson, Climate Manager (10th Grade)
Vincent Garrett, Climate Manager (11th Grade)
Simone Knight, Climate Manager (12th Grade)

- School Psychologist, Tania Neptune will be available to support staff with students who may be struggling with socio-emotional or behavioral concerns, planning as it relates to differentiating instruction to support all learners, implementing IEPs, and/or supporting Tier 2 or Tier 3 students.
- **Resources:** Please refer to the JBHS Mental Health Resources Guide for hotlines and other support options.

As an SDP employee, I've personally utilized Lyra Health services and encourage you to do the same if needed. Students may show stress in various ways, including sudden emotional reactions or absenteeism. Please refer such students to our counseling team for support.

Family Meeting Reminder

To maintain transparency and engaged families in our safety efforts, by hosting a virtual School Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting:

- Date: Monday, December 2, 2024
- Time: 7:00–8:00 PM
- Location: Google Meet (link below)
Join Meeting: <https://meet.google.com/dow-dgoz-spo>

The very successful and engaging meeting, attended by both parents and staff, covered:

1. Actions taken during and after the incident.
2. Updates on safety protocols.
3. Q&A to address family concerns.

We will follow up with another virtual meeting next Monday, December 9 to provide updates on academic achievement and family engagement initiatives.

Your role in maintaining a safe and supportive school environment is invaluable. If you have suggestions or concerns, please reach out. Thank you for your dedication to our students and our school.

Sincerely,

Brian R. Johnson

Principal

John Bartram High School

#Achieve, Lead, and Grow TOGETHER!