

Jan 16, 2023

Dear Rose Tree Media families,

I am writing to address an incident that was brought to my attention late last week and which I understand is a concern for parents.

One day last week, at Media Elementary School during recess, a man wearing a brightly colored, decorative hat was walking along the public sidewalk adjacent to our school playground. The hat caught the attention of a few students and a staff member. As the students looked in his direction, one of our staff members redirected the students' attention and moved them away from the fence that surrounds the playground. Our staff member informed the principal, Mrs. Stoddard, who quickly contacted the Media Borough Police.

This man on the sidewalk is well-known to many of our families and to the Media Borough Police Department. I'm disappointed to share that he is registered on the [Megan's Law Website](#), a public record where convicted sex offenders are required to register in their communities.

Media Police are eager to support and protect our schools, and if this man enters school property or does something to cause a problem or even a nuisance, we will immediately contact them. However, they have told us that this man is not in violation of the law by walking past our schools. They will increase patrols around our school and we will continue to partner with them on our safety protocols and procedures. All of our staff members have been notified about this man, and we will ensure that our recess, arrival and dismissal times are well supervised.

As a parent and educator, I understand the concern and fear that something like this causes. Please discuss this issue with your children and immediately contact the school if you have any concerns or questions. We are eager to partner with you on the safety of our students

Sincerely,

William M. Dougherty
Acting Superintendent