



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GDOE and GWHS Continue Security Measures; GWHS Receives Second Anonymous Threat; GWHS Administration Sends Letter Parents and Guardians; No Bags Allowed on Campus from Wednesday, October 18, 2023 to Friday, October 21, 2023

The George Washington High School (GWHS) administration has received information about another anonymous threat to the GWHS community. This second threat also originated from another Instagram post. The GWHS administrators conducted another safety assessment and continue to work with the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) management team, local law enforcement, and the Mariana Regional Fusion Center to identify and validate these threats.

The GWHS administration has sent out a letter via Swift Messenger to parents and guardians regarding the following updates for the school community:

- This morning, GWHS administration and support staff conducted a blanket search of all students at each point of entry to ensure that no contraband items were brought onto the campus.
- GDOE management deployed additional personnel to assist with the school's effort in the blanket search. GDOE School Resource Officers (SRO) will continue to be present throughout the school day.
- Law enforcement agencies are actively investigating in order to identify those connected to these acts of terroristic conduct.
- Blanket searches will continue to ensure that no contraband items are brought onto campus. **School bags will NOT be allowed on campus this week (Wednesday, October 18 – Friday, October 20, 2023).** Bags brought to school will be searched and will have to be surrendered to the Student Support Office where they will be tagged. Students may obtain their bags at the end of the school day. *Note: Athletes' bags, small purses/pouches, and lunch bags are allowed but will still be searched.*
- 100% visitor ID check will continue.

- Lockdown and shelter-in-place exercises will continue
- Relative to car riders: Parents/guardians are asked to drop off students by or before 7:00 a.m. to allow ample time for searching and to minimize loss of instructional time.
- Students should be mindful of the ways in which they engage in social media. All posts relative to students' safety and/or threats to human life are taken seriously and will be reported to all agencies necessary for further investigation.

The GWHS administrators encourage those in our island community to reach out to the school if they have any information relative to these threats. Individuals with information can send a message via WhatsApp to the GWHS Hotline is (671) 300-3012. All numbers are not stored.

GDOE will continue to update our island community when more information is available. For any inquiries or concerns, the island community can call GWHS at (671) 734-2911 or email gwhs@gdoe.net.

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