



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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January 22, 2008

Arnold Adair
Superintendent

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Deer Park Police contacted the district Friday to provide details about a man who attempted to lure a ninth-grade female student into his vehicle. The incident reportedly took place Thursday afternoon as the girl was walking east on Eighth Street. The vehicle, described as a white pick-up with "San Diego Charger"-style lightning bolts on its sides, approached the girl. The driver asked if the student needed a ride, then asked for the girl's telephone number. The student declined both advances, and the driver continued to follow her a short distance, then drove down the street and left the scene. The driver was described as a heavy-set white male, about 35 years of age, with reddish-brown hair.

Although the driver did not attempt to force the girl into his vehicle, we believe that it is important to inform parents about such incidents as soon as possible. Student safety is our highest priority. We continue to work closely with police to ensure the safety of students before, during and after the school day.

This particular incident is currently under investigation by Deer Park Police. School district employees are reviewing appropriate safety precautions with students, and I encourage you to do the same at home. Our psychological services department offers the following suggestions if your child is approached by a potentially dangerous person:

- Run away;
- Say "no" loudly, make a lot of noise and draw attention to herself/himself;
- Find a safe person;
- Tell an adult as soon as possible.

Police also advise that children should never share any personal information such as their name, school, or address with a stranger in a situation such as the one described in this letter.

Finally, it is important to remind your child that students should report any suspicious activities that happen in or around our facilities to school employees as soon as possible. Similarly, you should contact the school principal's office if you see or hear about suspicious activities around your child's campus. In these ways, we can all contribute to a safe, secure learning environment for our children.

Sincerely,

Arnold Adair
Superintendent of Schools