

May 23, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I wanted to make you aware of a Charles County Grand Jury indictment charging a Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) teacher with inappropriate behavior with students. The charges stem from reports made alleging that the teacher, Ralph Marvin Van Dyke Jr., had inappropriate contact with students.

Mr. Van Dyke, an instrumental music teacher at North Point High School since August 2006, has been on administrative leave and assigned temporarily to the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building since Nov. 15, 2017. When the accusations were brought to our attention, we immediately reported the information to the Department of Social Services, Charles County Sheriff's Office and school system administrators. The school system's procedure is to immediately remove any employee accused of inappropriate behavior from the school, and to prohibit the employee from having contact with students during the investigation and adjudication of the charges.

The indictment charges Mr. Van Dyke with six counts of sex abuse of a minor, two counts of sexual offense in the fourth degree and one count of second-degree assault. The indictment was made public today.

Superintendent Kimberly Hill will be notifying all CCPS parents about the charges later today; however, I wanted to provide this information first to our parents and school community. If you have any additional information to share about this case, please contact the Charles County Sheriff's Office at 301-932-2222.

Sincerely,

Daniel Kaple
Principal