

Message from the Superintendent

April 4, 2016

Dear PA Community,

There have been a whole host of emotions that we are all feeling as a result of Ms. Luther's (Dean of Students) arrest. First and foremost I would like to reassure all of you that it is never the intention of Pembroke Academy to hide or keep information from you that it is otherwise permitted to share with you as concerned parents.

Regarding any criminal investigation, that is something that the school is not involved in, and is not privy to unless there is a concern for student safety. We appreciate the prompt and professional response of the Pembroke Police Department. The Pembroke Police Department works very closely with us, and I am confident that had there been evidence that students were in any danger there would have been an immediate collaborative response on our part. Typically, we will follow protocols that we regularly practice ranging from shelter in place, lockdowns or evacuations. As he has done in the past, during an emergency Mr. Famulari will communicate with you via One Call Now to keep you apprised of the situation.

We have not made any public announcements regarding this case because it is a personnel matter that under state and federal law the administration must keep confidential. As Mr. Famulari has shared with you, Ms. Luther has recently resigned from her position. The Pembroke School Board will take formal action on that resignation at their meeting on Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup>.

In the near future, Pembroke Academy will be hosting a community forum to discuss the results of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey; it is our intention to have specialists in the field of drug abuse present at that forum. We are interested in having open conversations regarding some of the risks facing our students and adults in our community. We continue to be extremely proud of our community at Pembroke Academy and appreciate the support we have received as a result of this unfortunate incident.

As always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Patty Sherman

Superintendent, Pembroke School District

