



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Avon Public Schools

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Gary S. Mala
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

January 6, 2017

Dear Parents, Staff and Concerned Citizens:

As you may be aware from the statewide press coverage, a school bus accident occurred this morning in Avon. It is with deep concern that I send this message given the nature of the accident. However, I feel it is of importance to clarify the circumstances of the accident and answer any questions that may have arisen.

First and foremost, thankfully the two young students, who are Avon residents, as well as the bus driver, were without serious injury.

The bus was transporting the two students to Reggio Magnet School, which is part of the CREC school system. While Reggio is located in Avon, it is not part of the Avon Public Schools. The Avon Public Schools does not determine daily schedules for Reggio Magnet, the school determines their own schedules including schedules during inclement weather. I have been in communication with the CREC superintendent as well as Reggio administration to express my concern and offer any assistance they may require.

To better understand the specifics of what occurred in hopes of preventing future accidents, I was briefed by a representative of the bus company as well as Myles Altimus, our Director of Operations, who responded to the scene of the accident.

Decisions related to weather concerns are made only after considerable deliberation with a local meteorologist whom we retain, the Town of Avon Public Works and my colleagues of surrounding school districts. Please know that I place the wellbeing of our students and staff at the highest level and will do my utmost in ensuring all arrive to and from school only when conditions are safe.

I remain very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary".

Gary S. Mala
Superintendent of Schools Avon Public Schools
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