

March 14, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This morning (Friday) as we were all settling in for a day filled with Parent Teacher Conferences, our fire alarm sounded alerting us to an issue within the building. All of the teachers and parents who were present and attending conferences at the time, evacuated the building very in a very orderly fashion and in good time. Our very capable fire department responded quickly and began doing what they do best, finding the source of the problem and correcting it.

It appears that one of the heat pumps, used to heat and cool our building had seized, over heated and caught fire.

We have the mechanics here today (Friday) and they will be replacing the unit as quickly as possible and get us back up and operational. There may be a delay of a day or two in getting the new heat pump delivered, but there are enough redundancies within our system that we should not experience any discomfort from the cold.

I want to thank our Gorham Firefighters who responded so quickly and so professionally. It always strikes me that as folks are moving away from the danger, they are moving toward it! I would also like to thank the parents and the students who were in the building at the time for the calm manner in which they all evacuated the building. Finally, I would like to extend a huge thank you and a "tip of the cap" to our faculty for the way in which they conducted themselves. After it was determined that we could enter the gymnasium safely, our faculty quickly began conferencing with the parents who continued to show up for their scheduled conferences. Now that's a group of professionals!

We did employ our district-wide Black Board messaging system to inform those parents and guardians about the problem and the postponement of conferences. I apologize to those who didn't get the message and still came to the school for your conference. If you did not receive a phone call from us, please check with us to make sure that we have correct contact information for you.

As always, should you have any questions about this incident and our response, please feel free to give us a call.