

(No subject)

Dutton, Nick <Nick.Dutton@WTVR.com>

Sat 3/11/2023 9:25 PM

To: Dutton, Nick <Nick.Dutton@WTVR.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jason Kamras, Superintendent** <rpsdirect@rvaschools.net>

Date: Sat, Mar 11, 2023 at 3:39 PM

Subject: RPS Direct – Saturday, March 11, 2023

To: <jenkinsfamilyrva@gmail.com>

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Saturday, March 11, 2023

Dear **#RPSStrong** Family,

I'm heartbroken to share that we lost a 7th grade Binford student last night due to an accidental shooting, and that three other students (two from RAS and one from Armstrong) were injured in a separate incident of gun violence. On behalf of RPS, I extend our deepest condolences to the families, friends, and school communities of these students. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

If your student needs help processing this tragedy, please reach out to your school's counselor. Students who need emergency support should call the **ChildSavers Immediate Response line at 804-305-2420** or send a text to 741741. RPS employees in need of emergency support should contact the **Cigna 24/7 crisis line at 1-833-ME-CIGNA (1-833-632-4462)**. Additional counseling and support services are also available through the Cigna Employee Assistance (EAP) program by calling 1-800-544-6931.

If so moved, please consider donating to our "[Honoring the Memory Fund \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://www.aapeds.org/honoring-the-memory-fund)," which helps RPS families who have lost a student by offsetting funeral costs, co-pays for mental health support, and any expenses incurred for taking time off work to grieve. (Please make sure to select "Honoring the Memory Fund" in the designation pull-down menu.) Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Finally, if you have a firearm in your home, I beg of you, please secure it. According to the [American Academy of Pediatrics and HealthyChildren.org \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://www.aapeds.org/american-academy-of-pediatrics-and-healthychildren.org), the likelihood of accidentally being killed by a shooting is four times higher in homes with guns. We can change that with some common sense measures:

- **Talk to your children** about the basics of gun safety.
- **Don't underestimate the risk** posed by guns: even a 3-year-old may be strong enough to pull a trigger.
- If you have a firearm at home, **secure it in a lockbox or safe, unloaded**.
- **Store ammunition separately**.
- Before your student visits a friend, **ask if there's a gun in the home**. If there is, ask how it's stored.

Thank you in advance for doing everything possible to keep all of our students safe.

With great appreciation,

Jason

Firearm Safety for Families



Studies show children are naturally curious, even about a firearm they've been warned not to touch.



Kids are safer when:
Firearms are in a lockbox or safe, unloaded. Ammunition is locked away separately.



Kids are safest when:
firearms are stored outside the home.

Seguridad de armas de fuego para familias



Los estudios demuestran que los niños son naturalmente curiosos, incluso sobre un arma de fuego que se les advirtió que no toquen.



Los niños están más seguros cuando: las armas están en una caja de seguridad o caja fuerte, descargadas. Las municiones se guardan por separado.



Los niños están más seguros cuando: las armas se guardan fuera de la casa.



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Keep the “safe” in firearm safety

Hiding a gun is not enough! Kids are curious, and studies show they usually know where a family keeps a gun.

Gun safes can lower the risk a curious child will be hurt:



Safe or lockbox
for handguns



Locked gun
safe for rifles



Gun trigger locks—
inexpensive and effective



Lock box
for ammo



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Mantenga las armas de fuego seguras

¡Ocultar un arma no es suficiente! Los niños son curiosos y los estudios demuestran que generalmente saben dónde una familia guarda un arma.

Las cajas fuertes para armas pueden reducir el riesgo de que un niño curioso resulte herido:



Caja fuerte o caja de seguridad para armas cortas



Caja fuerte de seguridad para rifles



Candados para gatillos de armas—económicos y efectivos



Caja fuerte para municiones



Desempeñado por pediatras. Respaldado por los padres.
See the American Academy of Pediatrics

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GUN SAFETY and CHILDREN



Children as young as **3 years** may be strong enough to **pull the trigger** on a handgun.



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El manejo seguro de armas fuego donde hay niños



Los niños de incluso **3 años** de edad pueden tener la fuerza necesaria para **apretar el gatillo** de un pistola de mano.



healthychildren.org
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Important Links – Last updated on **March 11, 2023**.

RPS Links

- [RPS Website \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net)
- [Family Support \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net)
- [Enrollment Portal \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net)
- [RPS Love Store \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net)
- [Honoring the Memory Fund \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net)

Crisis Support Links

- [Richmond Behavioral Health Authority \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net) (Child/Adult Mental Health) – (804) 819-4100
- [ChildSavers Immediate Response Helpline \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net) (Child Mental Health) – (804) 305-2420
- [YWCA Greater Richmond \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net) (Domestic Violence) – (804) 612-6126
- [Virginia Child Protective Services \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net) (Child Abuse) – (800) 552-7096
- [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline \[t.e2ma.net\]](https://t.e2ma.net) – (800) 273-8255

www.rvaschools.net [[rvaschools.net](https://t.e2ma.net)]

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