



Education Services Center. 5776 S. Crocker Street. Littleton, Colorado 80120. 303.347.3300.

Dear Littleton Public Schools Families,

You may have seen reports in yesterday's news coverage regarding a proposal given to the LPS Board of Education yesterday morning. The following message was sent in response.

Thank you for your continued support of Littleton Public Schools.

March 17, 2015

The Littleton Public Schools Board of Education recently received a document titled, *The Davis Family Proposal to LPS for Open Discovery and Waiver of Damages*. The Board of Education has not had time to review the proposal and will do so this week. As an elected, volunteer Board representing taxpayers, it is the Board's obligation to have its attorney and others examine the proposal to ensure that it provides a process that is in the best interests of the taxpayers and the children that the Board represents. This is a new proposal and will take time to review. The Board, representing the interests of students, parents and community members, must follow its thoughtful processes.

The Board's first opportunity to examine the proposal is Thursday, March 19, 2015, when they will receive advice from legal counsel in executive session. The Board will then discuss the proposal in open session during a special meeting to be scheduled the week of March 30, 2015.

The tragic events of December 13, 2013 have caused the Littleton Public Schools community to examine every aspect of our safety and mental health processes and protocols. We have released every piece of information requested by all of the various law enforcement agencies as part of their investigations, including Karl Pierson's records. We have always been transparent with all law enforcement agencies and all members of our community.

The majority of our community has appreciated our focus on students: their safety, mental wellness, academic achievement, and preparation for post-secondary college or careers. We continue to communicate directly with our community on all matters, including our safety and mental health processes. This fall, the Board added a new priority to its Strategic Plan, which focuses entirely on safety and mental health. The LPS Board of Education committed nearly \$1 million in the 2014-2015 school year for additional counselors, social workers, and psychologists in our schools. We partnered with local law enforcement to add additional School Resource Officers in our schools.

With the support of the Board of Education, I formed a community Safety and Mental Health Advisory Committee last fall for the purposes of examining our current practices and procedures related to safety and mental health, finding ways for continuous improvement, and reporting these findings directly to our Board of Education. This committee is composed of parents, mental health experts, community members, agency leaders, law enforcement, teachers, students, administrators, and elected officials. This group has been meeting since last December, and all sessions are open to the public. These meetings have been

covered by our local media. In addition, we have reached out to state and national experts to work with our community members to help us on our path of continuous improvement.

We appreciate our partnership with the Davis family and our combined efforts over many months to construct the Clarity Commons memorial park on the Arapahoe High School campus. We continued to work together to plan events for the Davis family and the Arapahoe community that took place in Clarity Commons.

Two students' lives were lost on December 13, 2013. Nothing we can say or do can change that. We learn from our past. We continue to look for ways to improve our processes and procedures within the resources available to us, because while academic achievement is our purpose, nothing is more important than the safety and well-being of our students.

We appreciate everyone's efforts to best serve children.

Respectfully,

Scott D. Murphy
Superintendent
on behalf of the LPS Board of Education