

Office of the Head Principals



Greg C. Hatzis,
Head Principal



Paul A. Cavanna,
Head Principal

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Dear Fairfield Ludlowe and Fairfield Warde Families,

Today it came to our attention that a small group of Ludlowe and Warde students collaborated on creating an NCAA basketball tournament-type bracket and placed the names of Ludlowe and Warde girls in the place where the teams would be listed. This bracket was placed on a social media platform and participants were encouraged to “vote” for one name in each pairing.

We strongly condemn this behavior which is damaging and disparaging to all young women in the freshmen classes of both schools, but also to all Fairfield students and indeed, all women. It is discouraging that not only did someone create this post, but other students “liked” it, and this will be addressed. Our high schools are deeply committed to promoting respect for all students. Any act that negatively targets a group based on gender, race, nationality, religion, sexual-orientation, learning difference, or any other distinguishing characteristic will not be tolerated.

Upon receipt of this information, school staff from both Ludlowe and Warde initiated an investigation to identify the parties involved. While some of the originators were identified, it is now believed that a third party perpetuated the post and created the voting mechanism. If anyone has specific information related to this current account, please submit a TIPS report and provide the specific information. While you can remain anonymous, it does help us to communicate to you (if appropriate) if you provide your contact information in the TIPS.

The students involved will be held accountable for their inappropriate actions. We share the disgust expressed by students, parents, and staff from both schools about this act. As a reminder, not all the facts have come to light. Please allow our school staff to complete our investigation. We want to commend all the students and community members who served as allies in this circumstance and reported the behavior.

Please understand that we have no power to have the account removed or disabled. This can only be done by the account holder. As the investigation continues, however, we will work with the families of the account holders to ensure these posts are removed.

We take this situation very seriously and commit to a thorough investigation. We also commit to providing support to any student who feels victimized or hurt by these actions. We plan to address this with our school communities. We encourage families to have a conversation around why this is inappropriate and the implications that surround bad decisions that involve social media and the long term ramifications.

As a community, we can bind together to not only address the negative behavior, but also teach the important lessons that come from the unfortunate choices of a few. The strong reaction to this event underscores the values that we collectively hold as a Fairfield community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg C. Hatzis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "G" and "H".

Greg C. Hatzis, Head Principal
Fairfield Ludlowe High School

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul A. Cavanaugh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "P" and "C".

Paul A. Cavanaugh, Head Principal
Fairfield Warde High School