

To: Granda Hills Charter Parents and Guardians

From: Brian Bauer, Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent

Subject: **AB 452 Notice** - California Law Regarding Safe Storage of Firearms

This memorandum aims to inform and remind parents and legal guardians of all students enrolled at Granda Hills Charter of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of children's hands as required by California law. There have been many news reports of children bringing firearms to school. In many instances, the child obtained the firearm(s) from his or her home. **These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms safely and securely, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.**

This memorandum explains California law regarding the storage of firearms to help everyone understand their legal responsibilities. Please take some time to review this memorandum and evaluate your own personal practices to ensure that you and your family are in compliance with California law.

With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; **or** (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm others. **Note:** The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.

Also, with very limited exceptions, California makes it a crime for a person to negligently store or leave any firearm, loaded or unloaded, on their premises in a location where the person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to it without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian unless reasonable action is taken to secure the firearm against access by the child, even where a minor **never** actually accesses the firearm.

In addition to potential fines and terms of imprisonment, as of January 1, 2020, a gun owner found criminally liable under these California laws faces prohibitions from possessing, controlling, owning, receiving, or purchasing a firearm for ten years.

Finally, a parent or guardian may also be civilly liable for damages resulting from the discharge of a firearm by that person's child or ward.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and schools safe. Remember that the easiest and safest way to comply with the law is to keep firearms in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable.

Sincerely,

Brian Bauer
Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent