

# ROCKETSHIP RISE ACADEMY

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October 29, 2019

Dear RISE Families,

On Friday, October 11, there was an incident involving student security during Parent Conference Day when school was not in session but some students were on campus under the care of our after school provider, Springboard. An individual entered our school without permission by claiming he was the father of a student. He attempted to leave campus with two students who were released by the aftercare program but he was then stopped by Rocketship Rise's front office. Our campus MPD resource officer was called to assist and promptly escorted the individual from campus. Our resource officer then called for back-up and followed MPD procedure which resulted in the man's arrest. We are grateful to report that no students or staff were harmed during this incident.

Student safety is our number one priority at all times. During normal school days our policy is to enforce ID checks for all adults entering our school building. Moving forward, we are requiring ID checks **at all times** for any adult entering our campus - including when school is not in session as occurred on October 11.

These two students should not have been released by our aftercare provider and we are currently reviewing their security procedures and protocols to ensure they mirror the protocols at Rocketship Rise Academy. We are also in the process of reassessing our partnership with Springboard in order to ensure they are meeting the expectations of our school community.

We want to ensure we continue to have an open door policy where all families are welcome in our building but also want to ensure that all visitors and our partner care providers are following approved school check in and check out procedures. The safety of our students is our number one priority and we hope you will assist us in upholding our security measures in service of our students. We also commit to improving timely communications on safety incidents occurring on our campus - even when such incidents occur when school is not in session. We know Rise Academy is a special place to all of us and you deserve to be kept informed of any incident that occurs on our campus in a timely manner.

We will be holding a Principal Coffee on October 31st at 8:30AM and at that meeting, we will review our school safety protocols in more detail. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to either of us or your school leaders with any questions or concerns.

In Partnership,

Josh Pacos, Director of Schools  
Joyanna Smith, Regional Director



Ward 8 Constituent Services

October 31

Screenshot