



# PRESENTATION HIGH SCHOOL

December 21, 2017

Dear Presentation Community,

Thank you for the calls and letters of support—and for the collective community outrage at the false, unfounded, misleading, and half-truths that have been slung at our school and me this fall.

I want to unequivocally state that I am proud of the measures we have in place to protect our students both in the past and the present. And, I want to assure every member of this community that the actions taken by PHS in the past not only followed the law but were sound decisions.

PHS is at a disadvantage in responding to these falsehoods and in telling our story to the public for two reasons. First, personnel and privacy laws prohibit a complete description of every detail of these cases. Secondly, PHS has purposely been measured in our response to the allegations to demonstrate our solidarity and respect for all women who have been wronged by sexual misconduct

Regarding the alumnus allegations, in all cases, we could only act on what we were told at the time. What was reported at the time did not create a reasonable suspicion of sexual abuse. What is being claimed now is different than was reported to us in the past.

Our school's lawyer has requested attorney Robert Allard to share the concerns his team claimed to have uncovered about past allegations. Yet, he repeatedly refused to share, preferring instead to publicly criticize PHS through press conferences.

Many of the allegations made against PHS are unsubstantiated claims masquerading as facts, mostly done hiding behind the cover of anonymous and unsubstantiated rumors on Facebook posts. The news conference this week was intended to be harmful to current students who love their school and are simply trying to get a great education. They do not deserve to be subjected to this false narrative.

I am shocked that a former teacher would make claims that she wasn't aware of protocols for child safety and that PHS didn't follow them. During her tenure, we had at least 4 mandatory faculty trainings on child abuse and boundaries that she participated in. Our teachers know they are mandated reporters and signed acknowledgments of their responsibility. On top of all that, this teacher worked at PHS for 20 years and sent three of her daughters to a school she now claims to have been unsafe?

In addition, one of the claims against the school includes an old rumor of an affair between a teacher and a student from 2007 which was reported by the alleged victim as false. This is the type of rumor that gets posted on Facebook and then is repeated as "fact" when the young lady in this instance has repeatedly stated that there was no relationship and this was a vicious story circulated at the time and is now being recirculated.

In conclusion, I am deeply proud of how we have protected and now protect our students. I have previously outlined all we are doing to continually train and educate both our staff and our students on these important matters. My door is always open to talk about these issues.

I send you my best Season's Greetings and Christmas wishes.

Mary Miller  
Principal

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