



*THE GOAL OF THE FARMINGDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS TO ESTABLISH OURSELVES AS A HIGH ACHIEVING SCHOOL DISTRICT AS EVIDENCED BY HIGH LEVELS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN ALL AREAS INCLUDING NEW YORK STATE ASSESSMENTS AND REGENTS EXAMS*

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## F A R M I N G D A L E P U B L I C S C H O O L S

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(516) 752-6560

**WOODWARD PARKWAY SCHOOL**

FAX (516) 752-7018

**JOHN LORENTZ**  
*Superintendent*

**PATRICK KLOCEK**  
*Principal*

**PATRICIA O'REGAN**  
*Assistant Principal*

September 14, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This morning, a student at Woodward Parkway Elementary School reported that an unidentified white male wearing jeans and a black t-shirt followed her to school as she walked on Woodward Parkway. The student handled the situation in an appropriate manner by not talking or interacting with the stranger in any manner. The parents of the child have been notified and a report has been filed with the Nassau County Police Department.

As the new school year is just underway, it is an excellent time to review safety concerns with your children. Whether walking to and from school, riding their bikes or going to the park, it is extremely important that we teach our children to be aware of their surroundings at all times in order to keep themselves safe. We ask that you have a conversation with your children about not talking with strangers and implore them to bring any concerns they might have to an adult in school or at home as soon as possible. Below are some tips that might be useful:

- Teach your children that if anyone bothers them or makes them feel scared or uncomfortable, to trust their feelings and immediately get away from that person. Teach them that it is ok not to be polite and **IT IS OK TO SAY NO**
- Teach your children to never talk to or accept gifts from strangers
- Teach your children that grownups should **NOT ASK CHILDREN FOR DIRECTIONS**, they should ask other adults
- Teach your children never to approach a vehicle and **NOT TO ACCEPT A RIDE** from anyone unless you have said it is ok in that instance. If anyone follows them in a vehicle they should turn around, go in the other direction, and run to a trusted adult who may help them

Thank you in advance for your kind attention to this matter and for working with us to keep our children safe.

Sincerely,

Patrick Klocek

Patricia O'Regan

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