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Dear Parents and Guardians of Westlake, Bay View, Santa Cruz HS and Mission Hill,

Re: Recent incident in our neighborhood

The safety of your children is our foremost concern, and we need you as partners in being vigilant and in ensuring that all precautions are being taken to ensure their well-being.

Today we were notified by the Santa Cruz Police Department of a child luring suspect and they are asking for the public's help in identifying the suspect.

"The incident happened on Wednesday 2/03/2016 at approximately 4:00 p.m. when the suspect tried to lure the juvenile victim into his car. The boy was riding his skateboard near his home when he noticed a car driving back and forth on the street. The suspect then parked near the 12 year old boy and asked if he wanted to get in. The boy said "No". The driver then drove a few feet closer to the boy and attempted to lure the boy into his car. The boy then ran off and notified his parents who in turn called the police. The suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 5'6", in his mid-30 with yellowish teeth. He was wearing a short sleeve gray shirt. The suspect spoke in English with a heavy Spanish accent. The suspect fled the area driving a light gold compact sedan with faded paint. An image of the suspect vehicle was captured from a nearby residence's security camera. Residents are urged to be on the lookout for this vehicle and to call 911 if they see any suspicious activity. Anyone with information relative to the suspect's identity is encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations Unit at 831 420-5820."

Please remind your children to walk or ride to and from school in a group on well used streets. Caution them to be aware of their surroundings. Review with your children how to respond in case they are approached by a stranger.

1. Yell loudly to draw attention.
2. Simply run away.
3. Go to a safe place and call 911 immediately
4. Report the incident to a trusted adult immediately.

Working together we can help keep our children safe.

Sincerely,

Eileen Brown
Director of Student Services

Board of Trustees

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