



VANCOUVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 CLARK COUNTY
Jason Lee Middle School
8500 NW 9th Ave.
Vancouver, Washington 98665-7715
Phone: (360) 313-3500 Web: www.vansd.org

January 10, 2018

James and Jia Craven
8009 NW 14th Court
Vancouver, WA 98665-6904

RE: Naato'si Craven

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Craven,

There have been several attempts to contact you regarding Naato'si Craven's unexcused absences at Jason Lee Middle School.

Per your voicemail to Student Welfare and Attendance we are withdrawing Naato'si Craven effective January 10, 2018. A student who is not enrolled in an educational program and is between the ages of eight and eighteen is in violation of Washington State Compulsory Attendance Law, RCW 28A.225.010, and that could result in a petition being filed in Superior Court of Clark County requesting a court order against the student, the parent or both. It is requested you call the Office of Student Welfare and Attendance at 313-1330 to discuss the educational opportunities for your student.

Sincerely,

Lori Frank

Lori Frank
Jason Lee Middle School
Attendance Clerk

cc: Curt Scheidel, Office of Student Welfare and Attendance

Free Online Program

These accredited online programs require either limited or no attendance. If parent chooses one of these options, they will need to do a choice transfer form releasing them from our district to attend another.

NW ALL Prep

<http://www.nwallprep.com/>

Washington Virtual Academy

<http://wava.k12.com/>

Insight School of Washington

<http://wa.insightschools.net/>

Columbia Virtual Academy

<http://www.cva.org/>

Washington Connections Academy

<http://www.connectionsacademy.com/news/washington-connections-academy-approved>

Tuition Based Online Home School Options

Penn Foster

<https://www.pennfoster.edu/pf-homepage/index.html>

BYU

<https://is.byu.edu/site/courses/index.cfm?school=hs#university=false|high-school=false|middle-school=on|continuing-education=false|ig=on|online=on|paper=on>



Imagine what you can learn!

Date: December 1, 2017

To: Mr. James Craven

From: Mick Hoffman, Assistant Superintendent, C.O.O.

Mr. Craven,

I am writing in response to the concerns you shared at our November 9, 2017 meeting. We met regarding an incident on October 17, 2017, at Jason Lee Middle School. During the meeting, Mrs. Craven, Naatosi, Mr. Lookinghawk and yourself shared several concerns. In response, Ms. Everidge and I agreed to review your concerns of the incident and the district's response to the incident.

One concern raised by Mr. Lookinghawk was lack of supervision on the playground. In reviewing supervision at Jason Lee during lunch time, there are four adults assigned to the playground with a minimum of two always present. One assigned individual is always a security officer. When the incident ended, the other student immediately walked to the security officer and self-disclosed his actions. Both boys then went to the office with the security officer. This information is based on witness statements including Naatosi's. None of the adults witnessed the physical altercation, but two student names were provided by Naatosi and the other boy. Both were interviewed. Unfortunately, the name Naatosi provided stated he was inside doing homework club at the time and wasn't on the playground. The second student witness stated Naatosi and the other boy were arguing and may have been pushing each other prior to the other boy punching Naatosi a few times in the head.

A second concern raised was the school's response to Naatosi's injuries. The boys were immediately brought to the office by the security officer. Naatosi was treated in the health room and given ice for his eye. He complained of a loose tooth and had an abrasion on his left eye. He did not complain of any dizziness, headache, nausea or other symptoms. He remained calm. Mr. Scheidel spoke with Naatosi for a couple minutes, called your home and spoke with you. You immediately responded to Jason Lee. You then took Naatosi out of school.

A third concern you raised was the requirement of the school to notify law enforcement. You have cited U.S. Code on several occasions to support your concern. Law Enforcement was not called due to the judgement of the principal that a crime had not been committed, and that the boys were eleven years old. In addition, there were not any known previous issues between Naatosi and the other boy. I have since learned that Deputy Boyse of CCSO did submit a report to Juvenile Court. Juvenile Court has chosen not to take action on the incident. Based on VPS Policy 5159.1 Prohibited Activities, Policy 5146.1 Zero Tolerance and Regulation 5146.1 Zero Tolerance, the principal did take appropriate action regarding discipline.

Vancouver Public Schools

2901 Falk Road • Vancouver, WA 98661

PO Box 8937 • Vancouver, WA 98668-8937

Phone: 360-313-1000 • Fax: 360-313-1001 • www.vansd.org

A fourth concern you raised was Naatosi being out of school. As stated previously, the principal has adjusted the other student's schedule so they will not have any classes together. In addition, the principal will notify key staff to monitor the students. He will ask staff to immediately intervene if anything seems problematic and report any actions or statements that seem to be in response to the previous issue. Finally, the principal will meet with Naatosi to let him know that he can go to any adult in the school for help at any time if he is feeling uncomfortable or unsafe. Naatosi shared in our meeting that he has not witnessed bullying or other threatening behaviors at Jason Lee other than some snacks taken and personal belongings looked into by the same boy. These concerns have been addressed with the other student.

We heard Mrs. Craven's, Naatosi's and your desire for Naatosi to return to school. We too want Naatosi to return to school and access his full educational opportunity. We are confident we can do this at Jason Lee Middle School which Naatosi shared is his first choice. If Naatosi and/or the family would like to seek another school option, we will do everything feasible to accommodate the request. Please let me know your choice and I will help coordinate with the building.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mick Hoffman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "H".

Mick Hoffman

Vancouver Public School Notice of Student Absence

Student Welfare and Attendance
2901 Falk Road, Vancouver, WA 98661



Imagine what you can learn!

January 4, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your student: Naato'si Craven
8009 NW 14th CT
Vancouver, WA 98665

Had an unexcused absence from school on the following dates:

01/02/2018, 01/03/2018, 01/04/2018

These absences will remain unexcused until we receive notification from the parent/guardian.

Please check the excusable reason for this absence:

- ILLNESS EMERGENCIES HEALTH CARE APPT HOME HOSPITAL-ILLNESS (Dr note required)
 COURT PRE- ARRANGED APPROVED ACTIVITY RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY

Please sign and return this note to our office if you excuse the absence: _____

You may call our office 360.313.1334 or e-mail student.welfare@vansd.org

Attendance Procedures

- ❖ If a student is absent or tardy, a parent/guardian must contact the school to excuse the absence within **three (3)** school days after returning to school.
- ❖ Students with unexcused absences are considered truant.
- ❖ If a student is ill for **five (5) or more days**, a note from a doctor is required to have the absences be excused.
- ❖ If a student must leave early from school, he/she must bring a note from a parent/guardian and take it directly to the attendance office in the morning. Always check out at the attendance office when leaving school during the school day and check in again upon return to school.
- ❖ After **five (5)** unexcused absences in a 30 day period, the student will be referred to a truancy officer.

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