



Press Release

12/12/19

4:35PM

Follow-up to the press release from Wednesday, December 11, 2019:

The LKSD administration was informed today by the FBI at 4:25PM that Christopher Carmichael has been charged with one count of attempted transfer of obscene matter to a minor and two counts of attempted coercion and enticement of a minor.

Individuals with information regarding this criminal investigation should contact the FBI at (907)276-4441

The LKSD Administration has assigned LKSD Personnel Director Joshua Gill as Acting Principal at Gladys Jung Elementary School through the rest of this semester, which ends December 20. LKSD Administration is finalizing arrangements for an interim principal to serve at GJES for the remainder of the school year.

LKSD has social workers available for emotional support for students and parents. If parents need to access this support they should contact their child's school social worker or LKSD Lead Social Worker at 543-4874 or 545-4429.

Over the next week, Acting Principal Joshua Gill will be reaching out to parents to connect with them about any concerns they may have about their child's education at GJES and answer any questions they may have about safety and security at the school.

Additionally, LKSD is providing the resources below to help parents in talking to their children about these difficult topics or for additional assistance from outside providers.

How to Talk to Kids about Difficult Topics

Adapted from APA.org "How to talk to children about difficult news"

Think about what you want to say. It's OK to practice in your head, to a mirror or with another adult. Some advanced planning may make the discussion easier. You won't have to think about it off the top of your head.

Find a quiet moment. Perhaps this is after dinner or while making the next day's lunch. This is a time and place where your children can be the center of your attention.

Find out what they know. For example, ask them "What have you heard about this?" And then listen. Listen. Listen. And listen more.

Share your feelings with your child. It is OK to acknowledge your feelings with your children. They see you are human. They also get a chance to see that even though upset, you can pull yourself together and continue on. Parents hear it often: Be a role model. This applies to emotions, too.

Tell the truth. Lay out the facts at a level they can understand. You do not need to give graphic details. It's ok to say, "I don't know." Sometimes the answer to the question is "I don't know." "Why did the bad people do this?" "I don't know" fits.

Above all, reassure. At the end of the conversation, reassure your children that you will do everything you know how to do to keep them safe and to watch out for them. Reassure them that you will be available to answer any questions or talk about this topic again in the future. Reassure them that they are loved.

Local Resources:

- LKSD Social Work Department: 543-4874 or 545-4429
- Children's Advocacy Center: 543-3144
- Bethel Family Clinic: 543-3773
- YKHC Behavioral Health: 543-6100

Web Resources

Difficult topics:

<https://www.apa.org/helpcenter/talking-to-children>

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/hard-to-have-conversations>

Personal safety:

<https://www.kidpower.org/library/article/safe-without-scared/>

<https://stopitnow.org/help-guidance/prevention-tools>

Technology:

<https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/resources>

http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/internet-crimes/safety_ed.html

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