Samuel Jackman Middle School

7925 Kentwal Drive Sacramento, California 95823 (916) 393-2352 FAX (916) 393-4053



Paul Burke, Principal
Justine Fuller, Vice Principal
Dylan More, Vice Principal

Dylan Mora, Vice Principal Chris Clark, Teacher in Charge

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Dear Parent/Guardian.

In the past two days, we have received two reports of students in the Valley Hi area being approached as they walked to school by strangers with similar descriptions. This morning, a Samuel Jackman Middle School student was walking to school at about 8:30 a.m. when she noticed that a green mini-van seemed to be following her on Armadale Way. The van turned around, drove past her again and a man called out to her. The van stopped and the passenger got out and grabbed the student by the arm. She was able to get away and ran to school. The student did the right thing and immediately reported the information to school administration.

The second incident occurred on Wednesday at 8 a.m. A Valley High School student was walking on Valley Hi Drive near Prairie Elementary when a man in a green mini-van drove past her and made a "psst" sound. In this incident, the man did not try to speak with her further or exit the vehicle. The student reported the incident to school administration in the afternoon. In both incidents, law enforcement was immediately contacted and conducted an investigation.

The green mini-van was described as having no windows in the rear and a sliding door. It had a dent in the driver's side door and a partial plate of "3XE." The driver was described as a man in his early 30's, with dark skin, scars on his right cheek and over his left eyebrow. On Thursday, he was wearing a red shirt and jeans. The passenger was described as in his early 30's, about 6-feet-3, with dark skin and a goatee. On Thursday, he was wearing a red, white and gold 49ers hat, black pants, a white t-shirt with some type of design on it, and a red cloth bracelet.

Please know that we will have an increased police presence before and after school in the coming days. In addition, we encourage parents to take some time to talk to their students about the following safe practices while walking to and from school:

- Do not talk to strangers, even if they know your name.
- Always walk directly to and from school using the same path every day.
- Always walk or ride your bike with a group of friends.
- Run directly to school or home if you are approached by a stranger.
- Immediately notify a school official or parent.

Students are encouraged to do the following: "If you see something or know something, say something." The safety of our students and staff is a top priority at our school. If you have any questions, please give me a call at the school.

Sincerelv

Principal