

March 26, 2018



Carillon Elementary

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Administrative Team

Daniel H. Windish  
Principal

Shronda Granger  
Assistant Principal

Dear Comet Families,

Well over one-month after the tragedy in Parkland, student safety and security continue to be on all of our minds. Although I cannot personally guarantee the safety of all of our students from every given nightmare scenario, I can assure you that I will do everything I can, as principal, to keep our students safe. While solutions are debated by politicians and media members, the truth of the matter is that the best school safety measure is quite simple: stay connected. The best things to build for the safety of all students are relationships.

Don't get me wrong, we will continue to seek out the improvements to security like fencing for our field and an improved entry checkpoint. Faculty and staff will continue to look for tweaks to our procedures that will help be practical in light of what could happen. We will continue to utilize Deputy Mike Brown's expertise and training as a Seminole County Sheriff's Deputy who is sworn to protect and serve. These are very important items to remember.

It's also important to remember that we operate under the assumption that everyone reading this letter is a member of our Carillon Comet family and wants the best for **ALL** of our students. This goes for teachers, staff members, parents, family members, and community business partners. It's the first part of a relationship, having a common, vested interest. It's easy to see how a strong relationship between a student and teacher could help someone that needs it before they do something horrible. It's my contention that a strong parent/school relationship can be just as helpful in keeping our students safe.

Please know that should you have questions, or see areas for improvement, you can always contact me or approach me at one of our events. The same goes for anyone on our faculty and staff. We will consider it no inconvenience if you bring to our attention something that needs to be done for safety and we ask that the same courtesy be extended to us. If you are asked to check in at the front office, or to not drop your student off in the morning prior to 8:05, it is because of our desire to help keep students safe and not a desire to inconvenience you. We are on the same side and want the best for our Comets.

It is also my contention that those strong relationships are also the best way to improve student achievement at a school. Our teachers and staff members build strong relationships with students. Two of our teachers were just recently recognized by Florida Department of Education Commissioner Pam Stewart as "High Impact" teachers based upon analysis that compares student test scores from around the state. Join me in congratulating both Ms. Dawn McCullough and Mr. Jon Smith!

As with all of our teachers, they have made excellent connections with our students that extend beyond the classroom. Those relationships are more important than the test scores they helped the students to achieve.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Windish*

Daniel H. Windish, Ed.D.  
Principal  
Carillon Elementary School

