



Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools

“WHERE STUDENTS COME FIRST”

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

INCIDENT AT GAHANNA LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018

WHAT HAPPENED?

On Tuesday, October 2, 2018, a student brought a concealed gun to a first-period class at Clark Hall.

HOW WAS THE GUN DISCOVERED?

A student reported to a teacher that a gun had been brought onto school premises by a fellow student. Administrators and School Resource Officers (from the Gahanna Police Department) were immediately notified. The SROs entered the classroom, searched the student, found the gun and took the student into custody. The student was then taken to the police department for questioning.

WAS THERE AMMUNITION IN THE GUN?

The Gahanna Police reported the the gun was not loaded. However, the student was in possession of ammunition.

WHY DIDN'T SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS GO DIRECTLY INTO LOCKDOWN?

At the suggestion of our School Resource Officers, it was determined not to go directly into a lockdown situation which would have alerted the student that we had knowledge of the concealed weapon. At no point did we want the student to become agitated, alarmed or flustered until the weapon was safely confiscated. As such, the student was quickly taken into custody without incident.

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE GET A TIP REGARDING A WEAPON?

At Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools we take all threats very seriously. We respond to any mention of a weapon immediately by involving our School Resource Officers on campus and the Gahanna Police Department. If an offense occurs, law enforcement action is taken.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS?

We are grateful for a partnership with the City of Gahanna that allows for 3 Gahanna Police School Resource Officers to be in our schools. They are in our schools to help us maintain safety and security. They take all threats seriously and investigate them. They build trust with students, encouraging them to speak up when they see or hear anything that may become a dangerous situation. They also serve as role models and mentors, working in classrooms, attending student functions, offering advice and counsel on a daily basis.