Christopher R. Gautier Principal

## Narrows Elementary/Middle School 401 Wolf Street Narrows, Virginia 24124

(540) 726-2391 Fax (540) 726-7345

October 13, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians.

On Thursday, October 13th, 2016 at approximately 12:00 P.M., a group of third grade students reported seeing an individual about 500 feet away from the building with white paint on his or her face, while in P.E. The P.E. teacher was quickly alerted by students but did not witness the individual in question. SRO Deputy Billos and myself immediately conducted a perimeter check and found nothing. Additionally, Deputy Billos surveyed the surrounding blocks around the school by patrol car. Again, no one matching this description was located.

Approximately twenty minutes after this was reported, our lockdown (code blue) system was activated and the school went into a lockdown. The pull station that alarmed was located in the kitchen/cafeteria, where lunch was currently being served. After investigating, it was determined that this pull station had been falsely alerted.

Anytime the lockdown procedure is activated it can be a very scary situation for our students, parents, faculty and staff. In this case, those emotions were amplified, particularly for our third grade students, due to the situation described above. SRO Deputy Billos and Guidance Counselor Amy Clark spoke with all 3rd grade students to reassure them they were safe and there was no threat to our school.

In an effort to maintain the highest standards when it comes to the safety of our students and your children, we are very confident in our lockdown procedures. As has been the case throughout the year, our students and staff are extremely familiar with those procedures and do an exceptional job during our drills.

There is absolutely no correlation to the lockdown procedure and the individual in question reported by the third grade class. At the same time, we have and will continue to make student safety our top priority. If you should have further questions or concerns, feel free to call the school at (540) 726-2391.

Best Regards,

Christopher Gautier

2005 Distinguished Title 1 School

Principal

2006 Distinguished Title 1 School 2009 Competence To Excellence Award 2013 Distinguished Title 1 School

2010 State Teacher of the Year Award Winner Cathy Webb