

# Robert Frost Middle School

9201 Scott Drive  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

2013 National Blue Ribbon School



“Experience Excellence”

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September 21, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian, Students, and Staff:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of an incident that occurred on one of the school buses yesterday, Tuesday, September 20, 2016. While students were being transported home, some of our students engaged in a chant, that included the “n-word”, that is based on a social media video that addresses issues of racial profiling. The bus driver stopped the bus and addressed the students involved in the chant.

An investigation revealed that a diverse group of students including students who are African American, Latino, and Asian were involved in saying the chant.

Parents of the students have been contacted and disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with MCPS Student Code of Conduct. This behavior is both offensive and inappropriate and does not reflect the positive values of our students and the school community. While this experience has been upsetting, we will use this as a teachable moment for our community. In the coming days, students, parents, and the community will have an opportunity to discuss issues regarding race and how we can educate each other about our cultures and concerns. Finally, as an African-American educator, this incident is personally very disturbing and we must address this incident and issues of race so we all can move forward, together. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 301-279-3949. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Joey N. Jones, Principal

JNJ/mw

cc: Dr. Michael Zarchin, Director II Middle Schools  
Ms. Deborah Lewis, Transportation Cluster Manager