

Dear parents, guardians and students;

I hope that you've all enjoyed a restful holiday break with your family and loved-ones. As we head back into the swing of the academic year, I'd like to take the opportunity to share with everyone an important reminder.

Over the course of the two weeks just prior to break, we had three separate incidents at the high school in which students were found to be in possession of a knife while on school property. In none of these instances did any of the students have an intent to harm anyone. In each case, the student had either forgotten that the knife was in her/his backpack or had simply not thought that it was a serious matter to have it in the building. Regardless, we take the presence of any item which could be used as a weapon very seriously, and each of these students were subject to disciplinary action accordingly.

The safety of everyone in our building is always of the utmost importance to all of us at Coxsackie-Athens High School. Please review with your child the importance of leaving knives, and other weapons, at home. While we all understand that some of these items have a legitimate use in activities outside of school, they do not have a place in a high school setting. Working together, I am confident that parents and school staff can help our students to make responsible decisions and be sure to leave these items at home.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at the high school.

Again, I wish you a very happy new year and look forward to seeing everyone when we return from break.

Sincerely yours,

Heath C. Hanley
Principal
Coxsackie-Athens High School