

# Lockport Township High School District 205

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## On-going investigation of homecoming dance Pellet/BB gun incident

As stated in Dr. Wernet's October 1 District communication of the timeline for the homecoming dance incident, the incident remains under investigation. The following is an update to what we have since learned.

During the dance, LTHS staff made two announcements to students.

- At approximately 9:06 p.m., it was announced that, "2 individuals involved in a prank trying to ruin our homecoming are now in custody. Over 1 more hour of Boom entertainment remains." The announcement occurred soon after the exit rush event at 8:45 p.m. attempting to calm students. This was an inaccurate assessment of events, and a different statement should have been made.
- At approximately 9:30 p.m., it was announced that the dance was ending.

Additional developments:

- The Lockport police have informed the District:
  - The student that brought the pellet/BB gun was charged with disorderly conduct, and the second student was charged with obstruction of justice.
  - The pellet/BB gun did not have the necessary CO 2 cartridge required for firing, and was not loaded with a projectile.
- To date, there are no reports of any student being threatened by the student that brought the pellet /BB gun to the dance. The student who brought it to the dance indicated it was for attention.
- An LTHS staff member, who was supervising at the dance, reported they heard a student state, "someone has a gun" moments before the exit rush in the CWC corridor.
- The 8:45 p.m. exit rush was a serious incident. Tables for water bottle sales that were set-up in the hallway greatly contributed to the incident. In the future, this practice will not be allowed in hallways at dances/events.

The District Safety and Threat Assessment Team has been directed to review the incident, and current safety procedures, and make recommendations for enhancing the District Safety Plan. The administration thanks the cooperation of the students who came forward to provide additional information. The investigation remains open.

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