

**CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. OPEN SCHOOL  
850 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
(617)349-6540

**Timothy Groves**  
Principal

April 9, 2010

Dear King Open Community,

I am writing to inform you that Chris Bradshaw, a person employed as an assistant teacher at the City's afterschool program operated at the King Open School, King Open Extended Day(KOED), has been arrested and arraigned on alleged child rape charges. According to information provided to us by law enforcement authorities, the alleged incident took place at a private home. The person charged, Mr. Bradshaw, has been removed from his position in KOED.

This is alarming and upsetting information. Working with the City, we at King Open and KOED want to support students, parents and staff as needed. With this letter, I am enclosing information about how adults can speak with children or answer their questions in ways that fit their age and awareness. In addition, we have scheduled a community meeting at the school's library this Monday evening, April 12 at 6:00 p.m. At that meeting we will have a professional counselor present who can answer any questions that you might have regarding how to address this issue with your child. As this case remains under investigation, anyone with information about this or related matters is urged to contact the Cambridge Police Department at 617-349-3300 or the Middlesex District Attorney Office's Child Abuse unit at 781-897-8400. Additionally, anyone who feels the need to speak with a medical professional before Monday night's meeting should call the Cambridge Health Alliance Psychiatric Emergency Service at (617)665-1560. In addition, The C.S.E.S.T. is a Department of Mental Health funded emergency service which is also available at any time. Their number is (800)981-4357. In addition, I am available periodically over the weekend by email at [tgroves@cpsd.us](mailto:tgroves@cpsd.us).

I hope that together we can support our children and reassure them if they are exposed to and aware of the publicity in the larger community.

Sincerely,

Tim Groves

Note: If any family needs translation into **Portuguese** of this letter, please call our Citywide Family Liaison, Rosemary Pereira, any time this weekend at (617)999-6872.

## **TIPS FOR FAMILIES TALKING TO OR LISTENING TO CHILDREN TALK ABOUT SITUATIONS CONCERNING SEXUAL ABUSE**

Adapted from New York University Child Study Center  
Dr. Anthony Charuvastra

If your child learns of specific details of an incident affecting another child, or asks specifically about a person in question:

- Give matter of fact answers about what you know for certain, but it is best not to discuss details that are beyond actions or consequences that your child is old enough to understand.
- Let your child tell you what she knows, what she wonders about, and what her concerns or worries are.
- Remind your child of all the ways in which people work to keep him safe – parents, teachers, police officers, principals. Remind him that he can always tell you or another trusted adult.
- Remain calm and neutral. It will not help your child to tell you something if he thinks you will become angry or frightened or sad.
- Do show real concern, but not alarm or anger.

### **MORE FROM PRINCIPAL TIM**

If you are worried that your child may have had situations that were unsafe, please feel free to email me this weekend or attend the meeting for families Monday evening, April 12, 6:00pm in the school Library. There will be mental health professionals at that meeting for answers and advice for any specific questions you may have. If you believe that your child may need more immediate professional attention, please call one of the emergency mental health numbers listed in my letter.