February 5, 2020

Dear South River High School Families:

Attached to this letter is a news release issued by the Anne Arundel County Police Department today regarding criminal charges against one of our teachers. The release contains all of the pertinent information with regard to the criminal aspect of the case, but I am writing to you to provide additional information so that you can discuss this matter with your child in a manner you deem most appropriate.

First and foremost, I want you to know that our school and our school system took action in January 2019 immediately upon becoming aware of the allegations against teacher Meredith Martin. She was immediately removed from her classroom position and reassigned to a position outside of our school in which she has had no contact with children.

We have – and will continue – to provide the appropriate resources to the student involved in this matter. We encourage you to discuss this matter with your children as well, and contact our school counselors if your child needs support.

This is a difficult situation for everyone here at South River. I understand the emotions that you are likely feeling as you digest this information. I ask you to keep in mind that a child is at the center of this matter. I believe it is crucial to respect the impact this matter has had and continues to have on him and his family.

As the police release indicates, this is an ongoing investigation. I urge you to talk to your child about this matter and if there is any information whatsoever that you believe is pertinent to this investigation, please call police at the number listed on the release.

Please also urge your child to report anything that makes them feel unsafe to a responsible adult as soon as possible. Any safety concern can also be addressed through the Student Safety Hotline at 877-676-9854 that can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Finally, I would ask you to understand that neither our school nor our school system can discuss specific details of this ongoing investigation. If you have a question that you believe we can answer, please call the school at 410-956-5600.

Sincerely,

William T. Myers
Principal

WTM/bm
On January 30, 2019 at 4:08 p.m., the Anne Arundel County Police responded to South River High School located at 201 Central Avenue East, Edgewater, Maryland in reference to a possible sex offense. The incident was involving a schoolteacher and a teenage student which had occurred earlier. School Administrators advised they received information that the teenage victim and a teacher were seen together initiating inappropriate contact. The teacher, identified as Meredith Susan Barry Martin, a thirty seven year old from the 700 block of Peggy Stewart Court, Davidsonville, Maryland, was immediately removed by the Anne Arundel County School Board from having any further contact with children.

The Anne Arundel County Child Abuse Unit along with members from the Department of Social Services coordinated numerous interviews with potential witnesses and the suspect. Recently, the teenage victim submitted a written statement to the Anne Arundel County Board of Education confirming the suspect, Meredith Martin, had inappropriate contact with the victim. On January 16, 2020, the teenage victim was interviewed by detectives where the victim disclosed having numerous sexual encounters with the teacher/suspect, Meredith Martin, in the Davidsonville and Edgewater area.

Working in conjunction with the Anne Arundel County State’s Attorney’s Office detectives obtained an arrest warrant charging Meredith Martin with five counts of sex abuse of a minor, eight counts of 4th degree sex offense involving a person in the position of authority, and two counts of perverted practice. On February 5, 2020, the suspect was taken into custody without incident.

As the investigation continues the Anne Arundel County Police is urging any other victims or anyone with information on these incidents to contact the Anne Arundel County Child Abuse Unit at 410-222-4733. Callers wishing to remain anonymous are asked to contact
If you have information about any criminal activity or threat to public safety, please call the Anne Arundel County Police Tip Line at 410-222-4700 or Metro Crime Stoppers at 866-7-LOCKUP (866-756-2587).

**Arrested:**
Meredith Susan Barry Martin  
DOB: 08/14/1982  
700 block of Peggy Stewart Court  
Davidsonville, Maryland

**Charges:**
- Sex Abuse of a Minor (5 cts.)
- Sex Off 4th - Pers Pos Auth (8 cts.)
- Perverted Practice (2 cts.)

Visit the Anne Arundel County Police Department website