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## **Mill Valley School District Debrief of 1/27/2020 Incident**

Dear Mill Valley School District Community,

Thank you for your cooperation during the incident on January 27, 2020 in the Tam High School area and the shelter-in-place of the surrounding community. When incidents such as this happen in our community, we strictly follow the instructions we receive from our local law enforcement partners. During this incident in particular, the District was in direct communication with Mill Valley Police Chief Alan Piombo, and there were police from the Sausalito Police Department and the California Highway Patrol present on MVMS campus through the duration of the [event](#).

Mill Valley Middle School released students at the end of the school day after we received direction from law enforcement that the area was safe for student release. The Tam High students were not yet released because although the area was deemed safe by police, the school staff and MVPD were completing their lockdown procedures.

We offered any MVMS student who wished to stay at school the opportunity to wait in the library for their personal comfort. Our staff and police enforcement were outside with students during release. Additionally, counseling staff were available to support students immediately during the incident as well as throughout the following day to continue to support students with concerns related to this incident.

“Lockdown” procedures differ from “Shelter-in-Place” procedures. For security reasons, schools do not disclose specific procedures. However, “Lockdown” procedures are activated when there is a serious, direct, or imminent threat and requires a unique release protocol. “Shelter-in-Place” procedures are activated when there is an environmental hazard and students need to remain inside, if there is a threat nearby, or there is police activity in the area. Release or “all clear” procedures are different for both. Releasing students from a “Lockdown”

takes much longer than releasing students from a “Shelter-in-Place,” even if the immediate and surrounding areas have been deemed safe by local law enforcement.

Please know that during any emergency situation, we will update you as soon as we receive information from law enforcement and are able to safely do so. We will always keep the safety of students and staff as the top priority. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Best Regards,

Mill Valley School District Superintendent's Office