



**Melissa Sedillo, ED.S.**  
PRINCIPAL

Sept. 17, 2024

Dear Volcano Vista Families,

Today, I must address an unfortunate incident that took place on our campus. I am deeply saddened to inform you that a loaded gun was confiscated from a student's backpack this morning. A subsequent search of the student's vehicle uncovered a second firearm.

First and foremost, I want to reassure you that the student found in possession of the gun did not express any intentions of harming himself or others. Nevertheless, the presence of any weapon on school grounds is a serious violation of our policies. The student who brought the guns is facing severe consequences, up to and including expulsion and potential prosecution.

I would like to express my gratitude for the swift response by Volcano Vista staff and the Albuquerque Public Schools Police Department. They jumped in immediately, seizing the firearms and detaining the student. I'm also thankful to the Albuquerque Police Department and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office for their assistance.

And I am grateful to the individual who alerted us to the situation. It is crucial for everyone to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspicious activities or concerns. Your watchfulness and willingness to speak up play an integral role in maintaining a safe and secure environment for our students and staff.

Separately—and unrelated to the student found with the guns—we have been made aware of a threat against our school posted on social media. Authorities investigated that threat and deemed it not credible. As a precautionary measure, we will have an increased presence from APS Police and APD on our campus for the rest of the week.

Please know that the safety and well-being of our students and staff are paramount. Every reported threat will be treated with the utmost seriousness, and we will do everything within our power to ensure their protection.

Incidents like this heighten anxieties within our school community. We recognize the impact such events can have on both our students and staff. I encourage all members of our community to take advantage of the counseling resources available to help navigate these challenging times.

Should you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 505-890-0343. As always, I want to express my sincere appreciation for your support of our students and staff at Volcano Vista High School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Melissa Sedillo'.

Melissa Sedillo, Principal

Volcano Vista High School