



Building Bridges for today's students to cross into tomorrow's world with equity, innovation and optimism

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James Montesano, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

May 18, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to share with you information about the tragic event that occurred on North Broadway at the front of Upper Nyack Elementary School this morning. At approximately 7:30am a large oak tree located on the northeast end of the school property fell and struck a passing car, tragically killing the driver. There were no students at the school at the time of the accident and the Upper Nyack buses were diverted to the high school until parents could be contacted. I want to thank our Upper Nyack parents and the staff members at Upper Nyack and our high school for all of their cooperation and assistance this morning.

I have received several inquiries regarding the conditions of the trees on our school properties. Please be advised that our Board of Education maintains a contracted arborist who conducts inspections throughout the district. Tree removal and trimming operations are completed based upon the inspections. The fallen tree involved in today's tragedy was recently inspected by the arborist on May 10. The tree did not show signs of decay and was scheduled to have some light trim work completed next week.

I know you join me in extending our deepest sympathies to the family of the deceased.

Sincerely,

James J. Montesano, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools