



HENRICO POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2022

Juvenile in detention after firearm was recovered inside high school

(HENRICO COUNTY, Va.) - On Thursday, April 21, 2022, during the afternoon hours, Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS) personnel alerted Henrico Police after staff observed a juvenile student had a handgun at Varina High School, in the 7000 block of Messer Road. The Henrico School Resource Officer (SRO) and school administration were able to detain the juvenile male and seize the weapon.

Henrico Police and HCPS personnel work closely in any ongoing investigation. While police and school administration will thoroughly investigate the fact, there was a weapon on school grounds; there have been no credible threats toward any specific student or staff members. In addition, Henrico Police and HCPS maintain a zero-tolerance for these actions, and this behavior comes with consequences.

The juvenile will be transported to the Henrico County Juvenile Detention Home and is charged (on petitions) with possession of a firearm on school property, a concealed weapon, and underage possession of a gun. The juvenile's identity is not being released due to age.

"We want to remind parents and guardians not to wait for these direct yet important conversations about the consequences of possessing firearms," says Lieutenant Matt Pecka. "Firearms have no place in our schools nor anywhere on campus," says Pecka.

Take the time to limit access to any firearms and make sure they are accounted for and secure. Taking these steps today provides for a safer community tomorrow.

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