

Barksdale Middle School families,

The safety of our students and staff is my top priority as your principal, and I'm writing today to make you aware of steps we are taking to protect everyone on our campus after two bullets were discovered on our property.

To best protect students and staff, Northwest ISD has filed a lawsuit requesting an injunction against a local gun range after two bullets were discovered at Barksdale Middle School during construction. The first bullet was discovered lodged in an exterior wall in May, followed by a second bullet that struck exterior glass last week. In each instance, Northwest ISD reported the bullet to the Northlake Police Department.

Prior to filing a lawsuit, Northwest ISD safety and security leaders attempted to reach a resolution with the business owner to prevent stray bullets from escaping the gun range. The gun range is located 1.2 miles south of Barksdale Middle School, and both bullets were found at the south end of the school, in line with the range. Because Northwest ISD was unable to obtain a commitment from the gun range owner to make appropriate safety improvements, the district filed its lawsuit. This lawsuit does not seek to close the gun range, simply to implement reasonable safety measures for the protection of our students, staff and visitors.

As parents and guardians, you entrust the care of your children to our school, and the safety of all our students and staff will always rank as my top priority as your principal and the top priority for Northwest ISD. In addition to this lawsuit, our Bronco Camps were rescheduled for 6 p.m. today and tomorrow, outside of the range's hours of operations.

Please rest assured that we are exhausting every avenue to protect our students and staff, and we will provide further updates before the start of school.

Sincerely,
Michelle Jennings, Principal
Barksdale Middle School