Dear Farrell B. Howell families,

We are committed to keeping you informed about events that impact our school and students. Earlier today, we had a lockdown drill. The purpose of this exercise is to keep the students safe from any danger outside or inside the building. **Please know that at no time was the safety of students or staff at risk**. Like our fire drills, students and educators take an active role in the exercise.

This drill had been announced before it began. At no point was there a threat to the school. Members of the Denver Public Schools Department of Safety were with us from before the drill began until after it ended.

During a lockdown drill, the Department of Safety sends a message over the intercom indicating that our school is being placed in a lockdown. Then, members of my team work to ensure that all lights are out, doors are locked and all individuals are out of sight. The Department of Safety team walks through the school to review our efforts during the drill. After the exercise, the Department of Safety sends another message indicating that the school is no longer in a lockdown.

Feel free to contact me if you or your child have questions or concerns about the drill and/or the need for these types of exercises.

Sincerely,

Rachel Massey Principal