

Coeur d'Alene Police Department news release – 11.6.14

This morning at 8:07am Coeur d'Alene Police officers recovered a vehicle reported stolen out of Post Falls the evening of November 4th. The vehicle was taken by a 14 year-old boy from his father's residence, and the boy was reported as a runaway. The Toyota Tundra truck was located in the 1400 block of Hattie Ave by the School Resource Officer from Lakes Middle School. The SRO immediately followed up leads and spoke to friends of the male juvenile looking for information on his whereabouts. The SRO informed the building principal of the male runaway and told him the juvenile has friends that attend Lakes. The principal remembered seeing the male juvenile in the school cafeteria that morning for the open school breakfast. He knows the male because he has been a student at Lakes Middle School in the past.

Approximately an hour later the SRO spoke to the suspect's father and learned a 45 caliber handgun and two knives were missing from the vehicle. The weapons were believed to be in the possession of the male juvenile.

Additional school resource officers responded to the school in case the student returned to campus in possession of a weapon. A review of the video surveillance showed the male juvenile walking off campus after breakfast. The principal immediately shared the information district wide and prepared all schools for a lockdown if the juvenile male came onto their campus. The school resource officers began to search the surrounding area looking for the male.

At approximately 10:35am hours a staff person at Lakes Middle School reported to police they saw a student that looked like the juvenile male police were looking for on their campus.

The building principal and school resource officers immediately locked down the building. Additional patrol officers responded to the campus and secured the perimeter. Officers searched the building for the male. It was determined to be a false identification of the male juvenile police were looking for.

Lakes Middle School lifted their lockdown and the school resumed their normal activities.

At 11:25 am officers located the 14 year-old male walking in the 1200 block of N. 10th St. He was taken into custody without incident. The weapons were not on his person. Shortly afterward officers located the handgun and knives at one of his friend's residences. Officers learned the male juvenile did not have possession of the weapons when he was on the campus of Lakes Middle School this morning.

Chief White expressed his appreciation for the continued training and cooperation with the Coeur d'Alene School District in responding to school emergencies in his statement of "This was the exact kind of response I expect from our officers and school staff in the event of an emergency. All precautions were taken to ensure students and staff stayed safe".