

Purpose Corner Video Transcript 11/29/21

Welcome to "Purpose Corner" for the week of November 29th, 2021. Here is the announcement I made to the West student body this past Monday morning... *It is with the utmost sadness that we want to acknowledge the tragedy that has deeply affected our school family and the community of Waukesha. On Sunday, November 21st at 4:30, there was an incident at the Waukesha Christmas parade, which resulted in multiple injuries and several deaths. Current Waukesha West students are grieving the deaths of loved ones who lost their lives during the incident.*

I understand that many of you may have upset feelings and questions from witnessing or hearing about this tragic incident and those affected. Your teachers will answer any questions as best as they can. If you would like, your teacher will take the remainder of this class period to talk about what has happened. At times like this, it is okay to have many different feelings, including sadness, anger, and disbelief. It is okay to cry. Together, you can talk about whatever you may be feeling or want to talk about. If your teacher cannot answer your questions, or you would like to talk to someone privately, there is a support space now available with student services staff and other supportive professionals in the media center. Anyone who would like to go to talk to someone in the support space may do so throughout the day.

Please understand that people are dealing with this in different ways and we ask that all students choose their words kindly and with consideration, even when you think others are not listening. This is an opportunity for the West community to come together and support each other through this difficult time. There is a lot of information out there on social media and we want to ensure you have factual information as we move forward. Below are bullet points directly from the Waukesha Police Department

- *The suspect was involved in a domestic incident in the area of Frame Park*
- *The suspect then fled the area before police arrived*
- *He drove down White Rock Ave heading in the direction of the parade.*
- *Officers tried to get him to stop as he made a right turn onto Main St*
- *One officer pounded on the hood of the car to try and make him stop*
- *We still do not have a motive as to why the driver did not stop*
- *As the suspect rounded the corner of W. Main St. onto West Ave, an officer assigned to that traffic post was able to draw and fire his handgun as the red Ford Escape swerved to miss striking him*
- *The suspect ditched the vehicle near Les Paul Middle School and took off on foot.*
- *He was later found in the neighborhood asking a resident to use their phone*
- *The suspect is currently being held at the Waukesha County Jail on 5 million dollars bail awaiting trial on 6 counts of intentional homicide with additional charges to follow*

As we heal together one step at a time make sure we stay Waukesha Strong together! Go Wolverines... WHOOP!!