



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS

Office of Catholic Schools

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Crimestoppers GNO has been a longstanding partner with the Office of Catholic Schools in helping to ensure that all students receive a quality education in a safe environment. I am thrilled to inform you of our support with implementing their new, secure tip reporting Safe School app within our schools. During the school year, your student will be presented with information that will empower them to speak up if they see something that can endanger their safety or the safety of others.

While we know speaking up is the right thing to do, we wanted to ensure that the identity of any student or staff that reports information on dangerous behavior remains anonymous, the Safe School app is formatted to offer that feature. The app is user-friendly and student oriented, it allows students to upload photos, video and audio, engage in 2-way dialog with an administrator and be eligible for cash rewards should their tip lead to a disciplinary action on campus.

Students will never be asked for their name or contact information. All tip information received will be vetted by my administration and the plan of action taken by schools will be approved by my office. The app is available to all parents and guardians through Apple or Google play: **Crimestoppers GNO Safe School**.

Students can use the app to anonymously report: bullying, suicide concerns, stealing, threats, abuse, dating and domestic violence, fights, drugs, alcohol, sexting, weapons or other types of dangerous situations that threaten their safety or the safety of others for the purpose of prevention and interventions.

The Crimestoppers GNO Safe School app will help keep our students and schools safer by:

- Creating a positive school culture and community
- Giving students a voice to share concerns
- Gathering information to then proactively address concerns.
- Preventing tragedies from the personal level to the community level
- Building trust within our school community

Crimestoppers is offering this service free of charge. Please encourage your student to use this life saving technology to better our schools and community.

Sincerely,

Dr. RaeNell B. Houston

Dr. RaeNell Houston, Superintendent
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