

NEWS for immediate release

Fremont County School District #1

January 22, 2010

Contact: Paige Fenton Hughes, Superintendent (307) 332-4711

Bomb threat evacuates Lander Valley High School

(Lander) – The Bob Carey Memorial Fieldhouse and adjacent areas of Lander Valley High School were evacuated early Friday afternoon after staff received a report indicating that a bomb may have been placed in the fieldhouse area. No explosive device was found.

As a precaution, students were moved away from the fieldhouse to the classroom wings of the school. Guards were posted in and around the fieldhouse area to prevent people from entering the secured area.

Fremont County School District 1 Superintendent Paige Fenton Hughes said the report triggered the district's emergency plan for the high school and district. The fieldhouse and adjacent areas were evacuated and secured and she said the Lander Police Department was notified and that bomb squads from Casper and Sweetwater County were mobilized.

Supt. Hughes said a regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) from the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security arrived at the high school at mid-afternoon to begin preparing a sweep of the building. A bomb-sniffing dog team from Cheyenne arrived by air at about 3:30 p.m. and had cleared the suspected area first, and then the entire building.

"We received a report today that a bomb had been placed in the fieldhouse back in December. As a precaution, school administrators initiated the emergency plan," Fenton Hughes said

Classes were dismissed on the school's normal schedule at 3:30 p.m., but students were prohibited from the secured and adjacent areas.

The planned girls basketball game between Lander Valley's Lady Tigers and the Worland Lady Warriors was played as scheduled, albeit on a delayed basis.

The fieldhouse and adjacent areas were reopened to the public at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Authorities have launched an investigation into the incident. Assisting agencies included local FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE) agents and the Fremont County Sheriff's Office

###

Ernie Over
Director of Social Marketing
Wyoming Inc.
P.O.Box 900
Lander, WY 82520
(307) 332-3111 ext 19
(307) 851-0794
eover@wyoming.com