

'I don't like black kids,' Fresno middle school vice principal heard saying on video

By Andrea Castillo



Image from Scandinavian Middle School's website

Scandinavian Middle School vice principal Joe DiFilippo was placed on paid administrative leave Monday after being recorded on video saying, "I don't like black kids," Fresno Unified School District officials said.

District spokesman Jed Chernabaeff said the comment was recorded on a student's cellphone. The video was taken outside of the school's cafeteria in east-central Fresno. He wasn't sure when it was taken.

Chernabaeff said the district is investigating the incident. The parents of the student who recorded the video brought it to the attention of district officials Friday.

District officials are reviewing the 15- to 20-second YouTube video for the context in which the comment was made, among other details.

Chernabaeff said DiFilippo has been at Scandinavian Middle School, where 11% of students are black, since August 2010.

"Fresno Unified takes this matter very seriously and we will take any necessary actions pending the results,"

Chernabaeff said in a statement.

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