



Rutherford County Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOREST CITY, NC – May 18, 2018

At approximately 3:00 PM today, school officials at R-S Central High School received the report of a suspicious person jogging adjacent to the school campus and carrying what appeared to be a firearm. School officials prepared to initiate a standard school lockdown in response to the incident and swiftly investigated with the cooperation and assistance of local law enforcement personnel. Upon investigation, school officials promptly determined that the suspect, a former student and ROTC participant at R-S Central High School, was engaged in a personal training activity related to his current enrollment at the Citadel. The individual was NOT in possession of a weapon of any kind. He was, however, carrying a training rifle, a replica commonly used in parades, marches, and other ceremonies. No criminal charges were filed. While there was no actual threat to school safety, school officials wish to express their gratitude for the prompt, well-coordinated response of local law enforcement agencies.