



City of Grinnell
...Jewel of the Prairie

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May 6th, 2021

MEDIA RELEASE (Grinnell Police investigate offensive social media post) Case # 20210315

On May 5th, 2021 at 7:50 a.m. the Grinnell Police Department received a complaint from a citizen regarding a video posted on several social media platforms. The reporting party believes the video was sent directly to his teenage daughter because of their family's religious faith. The 10 second video shows several male juveniles walking through a school hallway, in a goose step style manner with their right arms extended and palms down. The video was titled "Hitler Gang" along with several racist and derogatory hashtags attached. Grinnell Police immediately contacted the Grinnell-Newburg Community School Superintendent, Dr. Janet Stutz and we are working in consultation with school officials, along with the Poweshiek County Attorney's Office, with an open investigation into the matter to determine if any laws have been violated.

The Grinnell Police Department is investigating this incident vigorously and we are committed to ensuring our students are safe and secure while attending school, and in their community.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. McClelland
Chief of Police

A criminal charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.