

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF SAGINAW
OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES**

TO: Foster B. Gibbs
Gene Nuckolls
Thomas Barris
Caroline Ferrell
Richard Powell

FROM: Mike Manley

RE: Benjamin Henderson

DATE: March 23, 2001

We are continuing to piece together the circumstances surrounding the death of Benjamin Henderson. Here is what we know and what we are doing to date:

The Incident:

From the police report and our internal investigation, it appears that on Tuesday, March 20, at approximately 12:55 p.m., during fifth hour gym class, senior Benjamin Henderson was located by one or more students lying on the bottom of the swimming pool at Saginaw High, near the ladder in the 11-foot end of the pool.

At the time, there were between 12 and 14 students in the pool, five of whom, including Benjamin, were proficient swimmers. Those five were in the deep end. Benjamin, according to students, was joking around with the other students. They said he was always "playing around" in the water. At some point, one student saw Benjamin at the bottom of the pool. At first the student thought he was just "playing," but when he didn't move, two students called instructor Bobbi Fischer for help. At that point, the teacher made a judgment call and instructed Daniel Delgado to get him. Ms. Fischer said it was a judgment call on her part that would save valuable time. Daniel dove to the bottom of the pool and brought Benjamin to the surface. Ms. Fischer ran from the shallow end of the pool, where she was conducting a swimming lesson, to assist Delgado in pulling Benjamin from the water. Ms Fischer told police that she had just seen Benjamin outside the water approximately one minute earlier.

Ms. Fischer told police that she immediately began CPR on Benjamin when he was pulled from the water and that she could feel a pulse. After she did rescue breathing, she could feel a pulse and he took "about 10 breaths." CPR was administered by the teacher until the emergency medical team arrived. MMR and the Saginaw Police arrived at the school shortly after the 911 call was made by staff. Rescue workers continued to try to revive Benjamin.