

Ministry of Tourism Transport & Municipalities

Dear Parents,

Please accept my profound apology on behalf of the Ministry of Tourism, Transport and Municipalities in respect of the most unfortunate event this morning in respect of the bus fire.

I understand how frightening it must have been for the students who experienced this and I understand they were very brave and handled the matter incredibly well. I am obviously very happy that everyone was evacuated safely and that there were no injuries.

What are we doing about this? I can advise that an investigation has already been launched into the cause and that the one other bus of the same series as the bus this morning has been withdrawn from service. The amazing bus driver who behaved professionally and safely and calmly evacuated the bus and fought the fire is being interviewed.

I can also share with you that an engineer from the bus manufacturer is arriving this evening on a pre-scheduled timetable to assist our mechanics in the mid-life inspection of our fleet to determine which of our buses need to be upgraded and rehabilitated and which we should dispose of. No doubt he will be able to assist as needed to determine the cause of the fire this morning.

I am obviously distressed about this morning's events and I will update you regularly as I get more information. I am currently off island on Government business but will ensure the information gets to you.

As a parent and a Minister with responsibility for our bus fleet, I again offer my apologies for this morning.

Regards, Sen. The Hon. Michael M. Fahy, JP Minister of Tourism, Transport & Municipalities & Government Senate Leader 61-63 Victoria Street Hamilton, Bermuda DDI (441) 294 0424