Schools untainted in drug ordeal, officials stress

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PLATTSBURGH — The day after a large drug bust in the City of Plattsburgh, prosecutors and City School District officials want people to know the schools are safe for children.

Seven of the indictments against alleged drug dealers included the charge of criminal sale of a controlled substance on school grounds. And that has parents worried.

Plattsburgh City School District Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs Lyn Hill joined Clinton County District Attorney Richard Cantwell at a press conference to assure any fears people may have.

"No sales, to my knowledge, have occurred in the school where an adult has sold to a child," Cantwell said.

Nor were any of the sales actually made on school grounds.

There is a 1,000-foot buffer zone around city schools, where the severity of the crime of selling drugs is increased.

"(The buffer zones) cover almost all of the city, and that's where a great deal of the investigation has taken place," Cantwell said. "Every school district in the county has the same requirements, and they work very well."

One of the 29 people arrested Tuesday — Vincent Rouihac, 21, of Plattsburgh — was charged with first-degree dealing with a child and third-degree endangering the welfare of a child, along with...