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Dear Parents & Guardians,

Safety and security are a top priority in our District. This is why we continue to invest in enhancements to all of our buildings.

Our proactive approach to school safety has now led us to partnering with the Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) and Say Something Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS). While we take every warning sign and threat seriously, the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System trains and educates students, faculty, and staff how to:

- Recognize warning signs and threats (verbal, non-verbal, or on social media) of individuals who may be at-risk,
- Act immediately to get help by talking to a trusted adult, OR
- Report through the SS-ARS 24/7/365 telephone hotline, mobile app, or website

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS) program is provided at no cost by Sandy Hook Promise, a national nonprofit organization. More than 31 million people have participated in their research based “Know the Signs” programs that includes Say Something. This program is age-appropriate and evidence-informed. To date, the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System and other SHP prevention programs have stopped multiple school incidents (i.e. shootings), gun threats, and suicides. SS-ARS and SHP have also helped reduced bullying and cyberbullying, and provided intervention for self-harm, drug use, and more.

With the passing of the Distraction-Free School Act, we also know that being able to report via the web or app, takes on additional importance. For that reason, we have worked with our Technology Department to make sure reporting methods are available using District-issued devices and technology during the course of a school day.

If you have any questions, please review the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System web page, the SS-ARS Parent/Guardian and Caregiver Guide, or contact the principal of your child’s school.