



# Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

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**Mark Secaur, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools  
(631) 382-2006

October 12, 2023

Dear Smithtown School Community,

I am writing to share with you that the district administration has been made aware of a non-specific potential threat related to the current war in the Middle East. Various news outlets have reported that the former leader of Hamas released a video asking Muslims worldwide to participate in a “Global Jihad” on Friday, October 13. Our security team and I have actively engaged local and regional law enforcement agencies including the SCPD, the NYPD and Homeland Security to share information and work together to do all we can to ensure the collective safety of our school community.

It is very important to note that there is no specific or credible threat against our school community at this time, but we felt it was appropriate to provide you with this information. While the recent news regarding the war has unquestionably been disturbing, we are particularly concerned about the impact these events are having on our Jewish and Muslim students. It is imperative that we protect all of our students from real or perceived threats, and while we acknowledge that many have strong opinions on this subject, bias or violence toward any of our students or staff will not be tolerated.

The safety of our students and staff are our utmost priority and concern. As always, if you or your child are concerned about a safety situation involving our school community, we ask that you please report it to the school immediately. As I stated in my letter sent on Tuesday, please know we are here to support you in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Mark Secaur, Ed.D.