



Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

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

November 15, 2023

Dear Smithtown School Community,

Yesterday afternoon, it was reported that anti-semitic graffiti was found on a student desk at Smithtown High School East. This news is greatly upsetting, but it is important for our school community to be made aware of such incidents and work collaboratively to oppose hate whenever it occurs. Anti-Semitism has no place in our schools or community and will not be tolerated.

Once aware of this incident, the district immediately notified the Suffolk County Police Department. Officers from the 4th Precinct arrived promptly, took a report, and a thorough investigation will take place. Should we identify the person responsible for this incident, strict disciplinary action will ensue and criminal charges will be recommended.

As I have stated repeatedly in past communications, we have a moral and legal obligation to provide a safe, supportive environment for all of our students. This obligation is also outlined in one of this year's Board of Education goals, which states:

"... the Board will continue its commitment to provide equitable opportunities and resources so that all students feel that they are welcome, they belong, and they are supported in every school and success in this work will be built upon a foundation of respect, diversity, equity, inclusion, access and opportunity."

We ask for your assistance in speaking with your children about the seriousness and likely consequences for such acts, and to encourage them to make good decisions that respect every student's right to attend school in a safe and supportive environment. With your cooperation and collaboration, we can help create the environment we all want for our children to thrive.

Sincerely,

Mark Secaur, Ed.D.
Superintendent