



Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

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

October 14, 2026

Dear Smithtown School Community,

In the interest of transparency and clarity, we'd like to provide the following update regarding the recent Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD) investigation of an alleged child endangerment incident and the district's delayed communication with the community. When situations like this arise, district administration, its security staff and the SCPD always strive to work together to ensure the collective safety of our school community. The vast majority of time, this work is done efficiently and in a timely manner, but with this incident, mistakes were made and lessons were learned. Notably...

- Building and district administration were not made aware of the incident until several days after it occurred. This fact understandably led some to believe that the breakdown in communication was the fault of the SCPD. That was not the case.
- We have since learned that the SCPD did notify the district on the day of the incident, but unfortunately, neither my administration nor building leadership were made aware until several days after the event. Because this involves a confidential personnel issue, additional details cannot be released.
- The district has taken the necessary steps to ensure that information is relayed to building and district leadership in a more timely manner going forward.

The district takes great pride in sharing information with the school community in a timely manner. When the information related to this incident was shared with us well after the date it occurred, we chose not to send a letter due to the timing of the information. Upon reflection, we realize that was a mistake. We should have shared the information nonetheless, and will do so in the future regardless of when we are made aware.

Whenever a situation arises, there is ample opportunity to reflect on how it was handled. We have been engaged in this reflection, realized that it could have been handled differently, and in the interest of transparency wanted to share this information with you.

As a school district, our focus is always centered on teaching and learning. That commitment extends beyond educating our students as it applies to us as educators to learn from our experiences and grow from our mistakes.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together in the best interest of our students and community.

Sincerely,

Mark Secaur, Ed.D.
Superintendent