

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Richard R. Corbett, Ed. D. Superintendent of Schools

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February 23, 2023

Dear Parents:

Providing a safe environment for your children to learn and grow is our *sacred* responsibility. Unfortunately, there are some members of our community who feel the district is not doing enough to eliminate bullying and keep students free from harm. Others acknowledge the district's efforts and understand the challenge that administrators face daily, particularly in light of peer pressure from social media. Although I address this letter to our entire community, I am acutely aware of the opinion of the former group and wish to address this letter primarily to those who are unsatisfied with the district's response to incidents of harassment, intimidation & bullying (HIB).

In response to those who are unsatisfied or believe that the district can and should do more to prevent bullying, I have requested that the Board of Education hold two extraordinary meetings with the sole intention of listening to parental concerns regarding HIB and the district's response. These meetings will be held on February 28 and March 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Copeland Middle School side cafeteria. The board will take no action at this meeting, except *listening* to your concerns.

These *listening sessions* represent the board and administration's continued efforts to address and eliminate bullying in Rockaway Twp. Schools. You should also know that at the April 19 board meeting, the board's attorney will provide a workshop intended to explain the district's HIB Policy 5512. This workshop begins at 7:30 p.m., and is open to the public. We encourage all parents to attend.

I am confident when our parents work with the board of education and the administration, we will work effectively towards eliminating bullying in Rockaway Twp. Schools.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Corbett, Ed. D.

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Superintendent of Schools

Rockaway Township Schools... Opening minds, opening worlds so every child's potential becomes a reality and challenges become opportunities for personal success!