

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Engaging, Enriching, and Empowering All Students through a World-Class Education

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As a school community, the safety and well-being of our students and educators continues to be a top priority. We believe this commitment includes the implementation of programs that involve and/or educate students, parents, teachers, support staff, administrators, local law enforcement, mental health and wellness professionals, and elected officials to take meaningful action to protect our students, staff, and community.

With direction and support from the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General, one such program that our district is implementing is the Safe2Say Something (S2SS) program. S2SS is an anonymous reporting system recently mandated by state law designed to help students and staff to recognize the warning signs and signals (especially on social media) of individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others. The S2SS program trains students and school staff members to treat every warning sign seriously and to act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult and/or by reporting it anonymously via telephone, mobile device, or website to the Pennsylvania S2SS Crisis Center. District staff members have been trained to respond to and manage tips that are submitted in coordination with state and local law enforcement officials.

S2SS is based on a three-step system:

- 1) An anonymous tip is submitted via one of the following options:
 - a. Website: www.safe2saypa.orgb. Tip Line: 1-844-SAF2SAY
 - b. Tip Line. 1-044-32
 - c. Mobile App
- 2) All calls and tips are received by the 24/7 S2SS Crisis Center.
 - a. A S2SS Crisis Center analyst receives and reviews tip information.
 - b. The tip is triaged and categorized as either life safety or non-life safety.
 - c. The tip is then sent to school officials and law enforcement / 911 call center (as needed) via text, email, and/or phone call.
- 3) School officials and law enforcement intervene and/or offer assistance.
 - a. School officials and law enforcement (as needed) investigate, assess, and intervene with reported at-risk individuals.
 - b. School officials report their outcomes into the Safe2Say Something platform and close out the tip, ensuring accountability for every tip submitted.

The S2SS program and curriculum are fully funded and managed by the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office through a partnership with Sandy Hook Promise, a national non-profit organization working to improve school safety. The curriculum is designed to be age-appropriate and research-based.

Student-focused training sessions for grades 6-12 will take place during the week of January 14. For your reference, please see attachment detailing the system.

Regardless of our role or position, protecting our children is a community commitment. Thank you for your support of this program to ensure the safety and security of our students in the New Hope-Solebury School District.

If you have questions or concerns about S2SS, please contact our District Safety and Security Co-Coordinators, Erik Pedersen at epedersen@nhsd.org and David Teasdale at dteasdale@nhsd.org.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Lentz

Superintendent of Schools