

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CHATHAMS

Note from the Superintendent

November 2017

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

This school year we have had more investigations into reports of harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB) than to this point in any other year since the inception of the law in 2011. The majority of these investigations were initiated by parents who communicated concerns to teachers or administrators, and the majority of these investigations did not result in a positive finding of HIB. As a reminder, our policy concerning HIB may be found on [this page of the district website](#). As an additional reminder, for an act to be considered HIB, the actions of the accused pupil must be motivated by a real or perceived distinguishing characteristic (such as religion, race, etc.) of the alleged target. As a final reminder, those acts determined to constitute HIB may result in significant disciplinary action, including suspension from school.

'Tis the Season

Please remember to update all of your contact information in the Parent Portal so that you receive alerts about school delays and closings in a timely fashion. Please also recognize that there are times when we must close school due to conditions in one side of town that might not be visible to the other side of town. These conditions could include the safety of sidewalks, the ability for school buses to make it up steep hills, and so on. All of our decisions regarding school closings are based on the safety of students.

Giving Thanks

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I would like to send special thanks to two community members. The first is Jeff Davis, who owns Specialized Auto Craft in Chatham Borough. Mr. Davis came forward in the summer to request that he create and donate a welcoming sign to our Cougar Field Complex. The sign was a massive upgrade from the previous one and puts the perfect touch on the drive into the complex. The second person is Joe Alfano, CHS Class of 2017. Joe approached the high school administration and PTO to request to create a Cougar that he could donate to the school as a gift. After getting the green light, Joe spent more than a year scouring landfills, farms, and reclamation operations to gather scrap metal, old equipment, and other items that he then welded together into a cougar. The end-result is an extraordinary sculpture, weighing in at 1,000 pounds and with dimensions of 11' by 7', permanently on display in the auditorium circle.



THANK YOU, Jeff and Joe!

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