

# BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**COLIN BYRNE, D.P.S.**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

October 10, 2023

## **Blind Brook – Follow Up Letter on Attack on Israel**

Dear Members of the Blind Brook Community,

I have heard from many members of the community that my email this morning downplayed the horrific attack on Israel that occurred this weekend. That was certainly not my intent. In my effort to emphasize our preparations for our students I failed to recognize the impact that this terrible act of terrorism has had on people in our community and for that I apologize. This is a challenging time for adults as well as children and support is needed by everyone.

A colleague shared with me a document about [talking to children about war](#). I am including it here in hopes that it can help with the difficult conversations around this tragedy.

I have also received a request for the contact information of the mental health professionals in our schools. I have included a list of mental health professionals below along with their contact information. You can also reach out to the building principals to share any concerns.

Nicole Hirschler - Bmprss Psychologist x2518 [nhirschler@blindbrook.org](mailto:nhirschler@blindbrook.org)

Tania Insinga - Bmprss Psychologist x2226 [tinsigna@blindbrook.org](mailto:tinsigna@blindbrook.org)

Rachel Mileo - BBMS Social Worker x3402 [rmileo@blindbrook.org](mailto:rmileo@blindbrook.org)

Tenisha Neil-Robinson - BBHS Social Worker x4451 [tneilrobinson@blindbrook.org](mailto:tneilrobinson@blindbrook.org)

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Sincerely,

Dr. Colin M. Byrne  
Superintendent of Schools