



September 11, 2024

Dear Manhasset School Community,

As a parent, I know how unsettling it can be to hear about a school lockdown. Please be assured that our students' and staff's safety and security remain our highest priority.

In recent years, we have implemented substantial measures to strengthen the security of our schools while remaining deeply committed to the social, emotional, and physical well-being of our students. A cornerstone of our safety efforts is our strong partnership with the Nassau County Police Department. During yesterday's domestic disturbance in the community, we worked closely with the Nassau County Police Department and Homeland Security. Their presence and expertise were invaluable, ensuring the safety of everyone inside our buildings.

Our safety plan stresses the importance of clear communication during such incidents. We are committed to providing families with accurate updates authorized by Homeland Security and the Nassau County Police Department. This helps reduce rumors while ensuring our communication does not interfere with ongoing police operations.

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, our District safety team will conduct a full review of yesterday's events. We will carefully assess how our protocols were implemented and identify opportunities for refinement. The Nassau County Police Department will also be involved in this review to ensure we remain aligned with the highest standards in school safety practices.

In addition to the lockdown events earlier in the day, our community faced another unsettling situation last night. While practicing in Roslyn Harbor, our crew team discovered a deceased individual in the water. The coach immediately removed the team from the water and contacted the Nassau County Police Department, who managed the scene out of view of our students.

The close timing of these unrelated incidents may understandably cause feelings of anxiety or unease. In addition to physical safety, we are equally committed to supporting the social and emotional well-being of our students. Each of our schools has a highly trained wellness team of mental health professionals who are ready to provide support. If your child is feeling unsettled or anxious by these recent events, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of the District's wellness team for assistance.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and trust as we work together to ensure the safety of our school community. If you have any questions about our safety protocols or procedures, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's building principal.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our school community safe and supported.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gaurav Passi
Superintendent of Schools