



HACKENSACK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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www.hackensackschools.org

February 20, 2018

Dear Hackensack School Community,

Schools across New Jersey are flying their flags at half-staff today, in memory of the victims of last week's tragedy in Florida. Our hearts go out to the students, families, teachers and emergency responders in Parkland. The horrific events that took place last week are disturbing to all of us. Students and staff have a right to go to school and be safe.

Please know that the safety and security of our students and staff is our highest priority. We work closely with the Hackensack Police Department to monitor our security procedures and run school safety drills every month, to practice how to respond, in case of an emergency. The District is exploring additional security options including, the Class Three Special Law Enforcement Officers, which the State of New Jersey has approved for the "explicit purpose of providing security" at schools. Continuous review of our practices and security planning is critical to helping us improve our emergency response preparation.

As parents/guardians and community members you can also support our school security efforts by being involved in your children's education and our school community. Please monitor social media sites and talk to your children about any posts or information they may come in contact with that may be troublesome or make them feel uncomfortable, and report it to school administration or the police.

We are committed to ensuring student and staff safety and thank you for your support of our schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rosemary M. Marks".

Rosemary M. Marks
Acting Superintendent
Hackensack Public Schools
"Home of the Comets"