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December 6, 2021

Dear Cherry Hill Public Schools Community,

The Cherry Hill Board of Education and the Cherry Hill Public School District are saddened by reports of an anti-Semitic message discovered recently at a Mt. Laurel synagogue.

We know that many of our students and our community members feel deeply hurt, threatened or confused by incidents such as these. I encourage students who feel this way to speak with their guidance counselors or student assistance counselors. Resources are also available on the District web site, www.chclc.org on the home page slide show. There, you will see a slide for Care Solace, which offers a link to 24/7/365 concierge support in any language. Additional supports, including how to help children with traumatic events, are available through the Mental Health Resources slide on the home page. Families requiring printed information regarding these resources should contact their building principal.

Our school district continues our daily work to provide a safe and welcoming environment in which our students learn and grow. We have [policies and practices](#) in place to make sure everyone in the Cherry Hill Public Schools community has the opportunity to learn and work in an environment where they are treated with dignity and respect, free from bullying or harassment. We do not discriminate on the basis of color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, veteran status or disability, and we continue our dedicated work in Cultural Proficiency, Equity and Character Education to ensure constant improvement in these vital aspects of education.

The holiday season can be difficult for people for a variety of reasons, and incidents such as the one in Mr. Laurel can be particularly painful this time of year. Please join me in supporting our neighbors and our neighboring communities, in being a source of kindness and light, and in speaking out against messages and actions of hate.

I invite you to reach out to me directly at jmeloche@chclc.org to share your thoughts or request a phone conversation.

Please stay safe and well.

Regards,

Dr. Joseph N. Meloche
Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools