



Lewis Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace, P.O. Box 5015
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-0391
(856) 429-5600

February 14, 2023

Dear Cherry Hill Public Schools Community,

Our hearts are with the Michigan State University Community.

It is saddening and disheartening to have to send yet another letter regarding a shooting in school environment. We are aware that there are families in our community with loved ones on the Michigan State University Campus, and that a number of our alumni have attended the university over the years. In the wake of this horrible event, I'd like to reiterate the safety and security protocols in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, as well as the resources available to our students and families.

Safety and security remain the primary focus of our responsibility, every day. We have every confidence in our Director of Security, Anthony Saporito, and our Campus Police: two officers in each of our high schools; one in each middle school; and two officers who share patrols at our 12 elementary schools, the Malberg Early Childhood Center, and the administrative building/alternative high school. We rely on the guidance of the Department of Education's Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning, the Cherry Hill Police Department, and the Camden County Prosecutor's office to lead our best practices and protocols for prevention and emergency response. Drills are done within all our schools every month, with reports and analysis of those drills shared and discussed with law enforcement.

At the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, we produced a video, "[Safety & Security Reminders](#)," which I recommend you review and discuss with your children.

Students may have a mixture of strong emotions about this latest shooting. Assistance is available. I encourage students to speak with their guidance counselors and/or student assistance counselors. Resources are also available on the District web site, www.chclc.org on the homepage 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 are available through the Mental Health Resources slide on the home page. Families requiring printed information regarding these resources should contact their building principal.

As a community, we must approach school safety together. Please pay attention to your children and get to know their friends, be aware of their interactions online, be aware of what they are doing, what they are sharing and with whom they are spending time. If you or your child have a concern, even the slightest of concerns – please speak up. Contact your school counselor, your school principal, or contact

me directly. Contact the Cherry Hill Police Department if you have a concern that is criminal in nature – the men and women of the Cherry Hill Police Department are partners for us all.

If you have additional questions, please contact your building principal, or contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Meloche". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "J" being particularly large and stylized.

Joseph N. Meloche, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools