



October 4, 2013

Dear Middle School & High School Parent/Guardian,

School safety is a task of paramount importance that requires the cooperation and dedication of all members of the school community. From students and school staff to parents and community members, everyone plays a role in the safety and security of Eastchester's prize treasures, our children.

We felt it important to reach out to you at this time to keep you abreast of the steps being taken to ensure the safety and security of our students. Both the Middle School and High School have detailed emergency response plans that have been created and updated in collaboration with Eastchester's emergency services departments. As an additional layer of security, both the Middle School and High School are outfitted with interior and exterior security cameras. Please also note the following:

- ❖ The District has contracted with Summit Security. Four security professionals will be monitoring the Middle School/High School campus during school hours.
- ❖ Other than the front door of the High School or other staff monitored entrances, the doors to both buildings will remain locked during the school day. Students will be reminded that no one can ever be allowed to enter the building through any other door for any reason.
- ❖ Only authorized visitors will be allowed in the building. Front door monitors will have visitors sign in, provide photo identification, state the purpose of their visit and wear visitor badges while in the building.
- ❖ Arrival and dismissal times will be supervised by school district staff and building administrators.
- ❖ All staff members will wear their district issued identification badges at all times.

The students and staff participate in numerous drills throughout the year to practice appropriate responses to a variety of emergency situations (i.e. fire drills, lockdown drills, lockout drills, etc.). **On October 16th, the Middle School and High School will participate in a lockdown drill.** This drill will be supervised by the Eastchester Police Department. Please discuss the importance of this drill with your child.

Attached to this letter, please find *the EMS/EHS School Emergency Guide for Parents*. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your school's Principal or Assistant Principal.

Respectfully,

Dr. Jeffrey Capuano
HS Principal

Mr. Scott Wynne
MS Principal