



Mr. Todd Winch, Superintendent of Schools 516-434-7020 Fax: 516-520-8314 twinch@levittownschools.com

Summer 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is my hope that this summer was filled with friends and family and afforded our students plenty of time for self-directed learning and adventure. The summer is a wonderful time for growth and development outside of a traditional school setting, and we are proud of the summer programs available to students in the Levittown School District.

We have had a busy summer hosting Camp Invention, Middle School STEM, SCOPE Enrichment, Summer Music, as well as our Marine Biology and Adventures in Local History Camps. This year we were also excited to launch our first ever Summer College Tour Camp in July. Additionally, the Summer Jumpstart Program, Extended School Year Program, Drivers Education, and an ELA and Math Boot Camp program for middle school students rounded out our offerings.

For those of you who have children returning to our schools this September and for those of you joining our community for the first time, we wish your families the best possible school year. We remain committed to our mission statement "Success for Every Student" and hope that during the course of the year you remain convinced that this is an amazing school district. Our focus continues to be on the needs of <u>all</u> of our students. Whether our students seek to pursue postsecondary education, choose to enter the workforce on a particular career path, or decide to join the military service to defend our nation, we will continue to do everything we can to support their goals and dreams.

We look forward to building on the strong foundation we have here in Levittown and expect to showcase some additional enhancements as the year progresses. The best is yet to come.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of the summer!

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Todd Winch Superintendent



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Jonas E. Salk Middle School 3359 Old Jerusalem Road Levittown, NY 11756 (516) 434-7350 - Fax: (516)520-8479



John Zampaglione, Principal

Amy O'Grady, Assistant Principal

August 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We hope you had a safe and enjoyable summer. We look forward to the start of a new school year.

For your information, this year school begins for students on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. The school day is from 7:57 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. *Back-To-School Night* will be Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Levittown School District Policy #5131.3 states that students enrolled in the middle school are required to remain within the boundaries of the school grounds for the full day. No student may leave school grounds during the day for lunch or any other reason unless signed out by a parent or guardian.

On the first day of classes, please be sure that your child brings his/her <u>class schedule</u> to school. In light of the district lock policy, seventh and eighth grade students, as well as those <u>sixth grade students who do not</u> attend the orientation, <u>will receive their locks on the first day of school.</u> \*<u>Please Note</u>: *Sixth grade students who attend the scheduled orientation will receive their locks at that time*. A notation of locker numbers should be written down and kept in a safe place. Students may <u>NOT</u> choose another locker without permission.

The entire staff is looking forward to the new year and we endeavor always to make it a productive and enjoyable one.

Sincerely,

John Zampaglione

JZ





Debbie Rifkin Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources 516-434-7030 Fax: 516-520-8332

August, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardian:

New York State Education Law mandates that all absences from school, both excused and unexcused, be treated equally in attendance policies. Parents and students are therefore advised that all absences from school and class are counted equally in determining that a student has exceeded the maximum number of absences permitted under our attendance policy.

Some examples of absences counted equally:

Illness	Suspension	Road test	College visit
Court	Doctor's appt.	Religious observance	Field trip
Accident	Cut class	Family vacation	Physical exam
Truancy	Job interview	Babysitting	
Health Office	Drug counseling	Funerals	

Although some absences are unavoidable, such as illness and college visits, unexcused absences are to be discouraged and disciplinary action may be taken. Examples would include late to school and truancy. When a parent allows a student to miss school, for an unexcused reason, it is called unlawful detention. Examples would include vacation and babysitting. Please keep in mind, that in terms of our Attendance Policy, **all absences count towards credit denial.** 

Each student is expected to be in school on time every school day. Absences should be reported no later than 8:00 a.m. by telephone to the attendance office by a parent or legal guardian. Students absent from school for more than half of the day may not participate in any after school activities including athletic and music events scheduled for that day.

Each course is considered to be one class. If a student's absences from a class exceed the attendance requirements for that course, that student will be denied credit. Three latenesses of less than 15 minutes will count as one absence in that course. If a student is late by more than 15 minutes it will count as an absence. Remember all absences count towards the attendance policy.

Daily course – all year Daily course – semester (Sept. – Jan.) (Feb. – June) Odd/even course – all year Daily course with lab on alternate days Daily 2 period course – all year

20 absences 10 absences 10 absences 20 absences 20 absences

If you have any questions about the district attendance policy, please contact the Attendance Office in your child's school.

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Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources





Debbie Rifkin Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources 516-434-7030 Fax: 516-520-8332

August, 2023

Dear Parents,

The District Code of Conduct has been developed as required by the New York State Save Act. Please follow the directions below to view and sign the Code of Conduct no later than Sept. 8, 2023.

#### \*\*\*CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNATURE INSTRUCTIONS\*\*\*

To sign the required Code of Conduct, complete the following steps:

1. Log into Parent Portal

NOTE: Parents of incoming kindergarten students or new Levittown residents will first need to create a Parent Portal account (instructions enclosed in this packet).

- 2. On the left menu, click on "Forms"
- 3. Click on the "Code of Conduct Summary" Form
- 4. Please read through the summary. A link to the full Code of Conduct is within the form instructions.
- 5. Provide your electronic signature and click the submit button at the bottom.

NOTE: You may submit once if there is more than one child by clicking the "submit per family button"

You may submit this form starting Monday, August 28th when the portal opens. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school main office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerel

Debbie Rifkin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

#### LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Code of Conduct Summary - September 2023

This summary of the school district Code of Conduct has been developed as required by the New York State SAVE Act and will be distributed to students and parents at the beginning of the school year. The entire code is available at the Levittown District Website (<u>www.Levittownschools.com</u>). This Code has been adopted by the Board of Education and submitted to the New York State Education Department as required by law. The Code applies to all students, school personnel, parents, and other visitors when on school property (including school buses and vehicles) or attending school functions and extracurricular activities. The Code contains the following provisions:

- Appropriate conduct, dress and language when on school property, including school functions and extracurricular activities as well as appropriate range of disciplinary procedures that may be imposed for violations of the Code.
- Acceptable civil and respectful treatment of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, students, and visitors on school
  property or at school functions and extracurricular activities as well as roles of teachers, coaches, administrators, other school
  personnel, the Board of Education and parents.
- Standards and procedures to assure the security and safety of students and school personnel.
- Standards for remote learning.
- Provisions for the removal from the classroom, school property (including school functions and extracurricular activities) detention, suspension of students or other persons who violate the Code or who possess or use illegal substances or weapons, use of physical force, vandalize school property, or violate another student's civil rights, or threaten violence.
- Provisions for the removal of students from the classroom, including plans to ensure continued educational programming and activities for such students.
- Procedures by which violations are reported, determined, discipline measures imposed, and such measures carried out.
- Procedures by which students may be suspended or removed from participation in extracurricular activities, including sports.
- Procedures by which students may be disciplined in school for events that take place out of school when a connection to school exists.
- Provisions that ensure that enforcement of the Code is in compliance with state and federal laws relating to students with disabilities.
- Procedures for notifying local law enforcement agencies of Code violations which constitute a crime.
- Provisions for notifying persons in parental relation to the student of Code violations by the student.
- Provisions and procedures by which a complaint in criminal court, a juvenile delinquency petition or person in need of supervision petition as defined in Article Three and Seven of the Family Court Act will be filed.
- Circumstances under and procedures by which referral to appropriate human services agencies will be made.
- A minimum suspension period, for students who repeatedly are substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interfere with the teacher's authority over the classroom will be suspended from school for at least five days. The suspending authority may reduce such period on a case-by-case basis to be consistent with any other state or federal laws.
- Provisions by which students may be searched.

Please review the Code of Conduct on the district website and then sign and return the portion below:

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|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

I have read and understand the complete version of the Levittown School District Code of Conduct from the district website :
Student Name (please print):
School

Student Signature Date

Please return this tear-off to your child's classroom teacher (elementary) or 1st period teacher (secondary) no later than September 8, 2023. Thank you.

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	<b>Regular Hours</b>	2 Hour Delayed Opening						
Period 1	7:57 - 8:44	9:57 - 10:26						
Period 2	8:48 - 9:30	10:30 - 10:59						
Period 3	9:34 - 10:16	11:03 - 11:32						
Period 4	10:20 - 11:02	11:36 - 12:06						
Period 5	11:06 - 11:48	12:10 - 12:40						
Period 6	11:52 - 12:34	12:44 - 1:14						
Period 7	12:38 - 1:20	1:18 - 1:48						
Period 8	1:24 - 2:06	1:52 - 2:22						
Period 9	2:10 - 2:55	2:26 - 2:55						

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#### LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Levittown Memorial Education Center 150 Abbey Lane Levittown, NY 11756



Debbie Rifkin Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources 516-434-7030 Fax: 516-520-8332

September, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In 2010, New York State passed the *Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)*. This law went into effect on July 1, 2012 and protects students from harassment, discrimination and bullying by other students or school employees. It stipulates that no student shall be subjected to discrimination based on his or her *actual or perceived* race, color, national origin, ethnic group, gender identity, or biological sex. DASA explicitly states that bullying, taunting, and intimidation on the protected grounds listed above are all forms of harassment; however, it is not limited to those categories.

*Harassment* under DASA is defined as the "creation of a hostile environment by conduct or verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's education performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being..."

*Bullying* under DASA is defined as "hostile activity which harms or induces fear through threat of further aggression and/or creates terror". Bullying may be subtle or easy to identify, done by one person or a group. Bullying often includes a real or perceived power imbalance, intent to harm, threat of further aggression.

*Cyberbullying* under DASA is defined as "the use of technology to harass, threaten, embarrass, or target another person". Examples of cyberbullying include; mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

In response to this new law, and following the recommendation of the NYS School Boards Association, Levittown Public Schools reviewed its policies related to student conduct and social-emotional learning. All necessary updates were made and subsequently approved by the Board of Education. These updates are now included in the Board Policies as well as the Code of Conduct for students and include complaint forms, all of which can be found on the school website on the Board of Education page. The District will continue to review its policies to ensure that the most stringent procedures are in place to deal with these issues.

Dignity Act Coordinators have been appointed in each building. They are the building principal and social workers, who have been specially trained. The process for filing a concern is available on the school website or can be picked up in the main office of your school. Every reported incident of bullying should be recorded and documented.

Dignity Act Training has been given to all employees and will continue throughout the school year. The District will continue to deliver its curriculum to promote civility and citizenship, and as is always the case, a partnership between home and school is essential.

Please continue to visit the school website at <u>www.levittownschools.com</u> and follow the instructions for continuously updated information.

chbie

Debbie Rifkin Civil Rights Compliance Officer





Success for Every Student

Dr. Beth Zirogiannis Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction 516-434-7025 Fax: 516-520-8408

Dear Parents:

In order to ensure that the lines of communication between teachers and parents are kept open and parents are informed of any significant changes in their child's performance prior to the receipt of report cards, teachers will be posting comments in the *Gradebook* on the Parent Portal for the following circumstances:

Student is in danger of failing Student is currently failing Student's grades dropped by 10 points or more Student's grades improved by 10 points or more

These comments will be posted by the following dates for each marking period:

Quarter 1: October 10, 2023 Quarter 2: December 19, 2023 Quarter 3: March 4, 2024 Quarter 4: May 20, 2024

A *Connect-Ed* message will be sent to all parents immediately following these dates to remind you to check the Parent Portal for your child's grades and for comments that may be posted by the teacher.

Sincerely,

Dr. Beth Zirogiannis Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

#### STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES (ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

#### Student Agreement and Parent Permission Form

Student agreement must be renewed each academic year.

#### I. STUDENT SECTION

Student's Name (please print) Grade\_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom/Class\_\_\_\_

I have read the Student Use of Computerized Information Resources Acceptable Use Policy. I understand and agree to follow the rules contained in this Policy. I understand that if I violate the rules my account can be suspended or cancelled and I may face other disciplinary actions, which may include expulsion, and/or appropriate legal action.

Student's Signature	Date

#### **II. PARENT OR GUARDIAN SECTION**

As the parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I have read the Student Use of Computerized Information Resources Acceptable Use Policy and grant permission for my son/daughter to computer access. I understand that the district's computing resources are designed for educational purposes. I also understand that it is impossible for Levittown School District to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. Furthermore, I accept full responsibility for supervision of my child's use in and outside of a school setting.

Parent's Name (please print)						
Home Address	Phone #					
Parent's Signature	Date					

1 of 4

#### SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES (ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

This policy is in accordance with the Internet safety guidelines set forth by the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2001, (CIPA", 47 USC 254 [h]) and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act ("NCIPA"). The Levittown Union Free School District provides all students and staff access to a wide range of computer resources for the advancement of teaching and learning. Our goal in making this service available is to promote educational excellence by facilitating learning and enabling students to become technologically literate, to supply staff with the necessary tools to ensure their students reach their full potential, and to support district graduation goals that require each student demonstrate computer literacy skills.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that use of the district's digital resources, networks and the Internet is consistent with our stated mission, goals, and objects. The procedures that follow provide details regarding the appropriate and inappropriate use of the District's resources, network and Internet. The smooth operation of the District relies and expects all users to conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, professional and decent manner while using the District computers.

All students will be supervised or monitored when accessing or using the district's computers, networks and Internet. When an account is created for a student or staff member, individuals are legally bound to the terms and conditions outlined in this policy.

The district's computers can be used to connect to many digital resources including the Internet. These connections, via the network, will provide opportunities for collaboration and innovation throughout the district and worldwide. The purpose for providing access to the network and the Internet is to offer resources to students and teachers for instructional purposes <u>only</u>. The district regards this access as a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility.

#### Acceptable Use

The purpose of instructional technologies, including use of the district's digital resources, networks and the Internet is solely to support education and research and must be consistent with Levittown School District mission and educational goals. The district expects all users to be responsible for good behavior and judgment on computer equipment. In addition to specific guidelines listed here, general school rules for behavior and communications also apply to communications on the network. This communication is often public in nature. Users will abide by the rules of network etiquette. Equipment is provided for students to conduct research and communicate appropriately with others. Independent access to network services is provided only to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner.

(continued)

7315 Students

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#### SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES (ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

Individual users of the district computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications. Users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they have signed. Users are responsible at all times for proper use of their accounts. Users are to protect their accounts' passwords and not share, loan and/or disseminate them. Unacceptable Use

Any violations of the Levittown School District's Digital Resources, Networks and Internet regulations may result in permanent loss of computer access, as well as other disciplinary or legal action. Users are considered subject to all local, state and federal laws.

• Illegal or Indecent Use: Using district computers for illegal, harassing, bullying, vandalism, indecent or inappropriate purposes are strictly forbidden.

- Illegal activity includes a violation of federal, state, local laws including but not limited to copyright infringement laws or any other material deemed "harmful to minors".
- Harassing activities includes unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance in school or smooth operation of the school. This may include but not limited to: insults, slurs, discrimination, defamation of character, cyber bullying, obscene language, jokes, cartoons, pranks, jokes, unwelcome compliments, or other communications creating an offensive or hostile environment.
- Vandalism activities include but are not limited to any action taken to trespass, damage or destroy data, software, or equipment.
- Indecent activities include but are not limited to accessing, storing, printing or viewing pornographic, sexually explicit, indecent or inappropriate material
- Inappropriate activities include but are not limited to: accessing social networking sites, un-censored blogs, and violating social accepted standards including the ones listed in this document.

• Disruptive Use: Using District computers to disrupt services or equipment from working effectively is strictly forbidden and includes but is not limited to: "bypassing the district's website filtering system", "hacking into", "Spamming", creating/promoting viruses, or overwhelming the system.

• Political: This may include, but is not limited to, using District computers to advocate political opinions directly or indirectly.

(continued)

7315 Students

#### L/EB

#### SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES (ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

• Personal or Commercial: This may include, but is not limited to, using District computers for product advertisement, political lobbying, gambling or any illegal activities.

• Unauthorized Use: Only Levittown students, district employees, and others authorized by the District may use the District's equipment is strictly forbidden.

#### Privacy

Access to computers and people from around the world also increases the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value. In spite of our efforts to establish regulations for the system, families must be aware that some material obtained via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive. In accordance with the guidelines set forth by CIPA and NCIPA, the district has worked with the Internet Service Provider to take precautions to restrict access to the most controversial material through filtering software. Filtering is provided locally for all Internet enabled computers used by students, patrons, and staff on a networked basis. The filtering software restricts the use of electronic mail, social networking sites, chat rooms, instant messaging and other forms of direct electronic personal communications. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and a user may discover controversial information, either by accident or deliberately. We believe that the benefits to students from online access outweigh the possibility that users may procure materials that are not consistent with our educational goals. School instructional staff will supervise online activities by the students; nevertheless, the user maintains ultimate responsibility for his/her actions in accessing Internet resources. Just as students are responsible for their actions in school, they are required to learn and use correct procedures and rules for using educational technologies.

All communication and information accessible via the computer resources are regarded as school property. Users should not expect that e-mails or files stored on district's storage areas guarantee privacy. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Messages relating to or in support of illegal or irresponsible activities may be reported to the authorities.

#### Discipline

Inappropriate use of the district's networks will result in disciplinary action. The Director of Computer and Library Media Services will deem what is inappropriate use and the decision is final. The administration, faculty and staff may request the system administrators to deny, revoke or suspend specific user accounts. Disciplinary actions may include: account(s) (termination or denial), internet account(s) (termination or denial), suspension/expulsion for students and termination of employment for employees, and/or legal actions.

(continued)

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#### STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES SUBJECT: (ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

L/EB

#### Disclaimer

The Levittown School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. We assume no responsibility or liability for any phone charges, usage fees or financial obligations, nor for any damages a user may suffer as a result of using the district's networks. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, corrupted files, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or users' errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at users' own risk. We specifically deny any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Adopted: February 10, 1999 Revised: November 13, 2002 Revised: September 5, 2007

Re-Adopted: January 25, 2012

## Stay Informed. Stay Connected. Stay Involved. JOIN TODAY!



Sign Up Online:

https://salk-mac-ptsa.memberhub.store/





Make sure you check out our updated spiritwear! Mac: <u>https://shrsl.com/2jjdt</u> Salk: https://shrsl.com/2jjed

2023/2024 Meetings Schedule 7:30pm 9/20/23 10/19/23 11/21/23 1/17/24 2/12/24 3/19/24 4/17/24 5/15/24 Meeting ID: 576 699 1528 Passcode: zoom 905901 Visit our check FB page or the Virtual Locker on the school webpage for: **Current Fundraisers** Other notices & flyers Salk Agenda book and pop-up spirit wear sale at Salk Open House 8/25

QUESTIONS? Email us at Salk.Macarthur.PTSA@gmail.com





## Salk / MacArthur PTSA Membership Form 2023-2024

Welcome to a new school year, from the Salk/MacArthur PTSA! We would like to invite all our parents, guardians, staff, community members and students to join the PTSA by completing and returning this form. Also please join us at any of our monthly meetings, starting in September, where you can listen to both of our principals update the audience on monthly events and listen to reports from PTSA members on transportation, secondary curriculum, food service and more.

By joining our PTSA, you allow us to continue supporting our students on their educational path. Whether it is awarding scholarships to graduating MacArthur seniors each June, providing pre-prom workshops and informative assemblies or providing a photo booth at the Salk moving up dance, together we can enhance our children's time in school, but we need you to partner with us. The easiest way to do this is by joining the Salk / MacArthur PTSA!

How do you join??? It is easy!!! You can complete this form and return the form & your check to the Main Office, in an envelope marked Salk / Mac Arthur PTSA Membership. Please have the check made out to: Salk/MacArthur PTSA. On the check memo line, please include your phone #; student name; the word "Membership".

Annual Fees: \$10 per parent, guardian, staff, community member, and \$5 per student

Or join Online at: https://salk-mac-ptsa.memberhub.store -Our Unit code is : 10-207 Salk - MacArthur PTSA





PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY- Use this form ONLY if sending in to school, if you're utilizing the Online Membership link, there is no need to return this form to the Main Office - Thank you for supporting our students with your membership!

Member #1: Name: Type: Parent/Gardian Cell Phone * :	Staff	_ Student	Community Member
Member #2: Name: Type: Parent/Gardian Cell Phone * :	Staff		Community Member
		:k #:	

Please note: Membership applications for individuals associated with graduating seniors who will be applying for the 2024 Salk / MacArthur PTSA Award, must be a member of the Salk/MacArthur PTSA by December 31, 2023. \*

Please provide your cell # if you would like to receive text messages from Salk / MacArthur PTSA \*\* Email address is used for PTSA purposes ONLY & is needed to obtain the membership card. Once your email has been recorded, NYS PTA will email you a "virtual" membership card to print at your convenience.

Vanessa Nesci, Salk / MacArthur PTSA VP Membership Email: salk.macarthur.ptsa@gmail.com

Follow the Salk/MacArthur Membership Information Group on Facebook:







Welcome to the 2023 -2024 school year! Levittown SEPTA almost **doubled** our membership last year. Support is really growing for the special education students of the district! Membership links are below with an option to submit a paper copy of this form, if preferred.



Teacher/Staff Membership: https://levittownsepta.memberhub.com/store/items/8417



Standard Membership - https://levittownsepta.memberhub.com/store/items/8407



Student Membership - https://levittownsepta.memberhub.com/store/items/8415

If you would prefer to send in a paper copy of the form, please fill out the information below and return to: Levittown SEPTA, Levittown Memorial Education Center, 150 Abbey Lane, Levittown, NY 11756.

Name(s):	

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:	

DUES (\$12 / N	Member)	X \$12.00 =
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I am a.... ( ) Parent ( ) Teacher ( ) Administrator ( ) Student ( ) Other

Checks payable to Levittown SEPTA





Debbie Rifkin Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources 516-434-7030 Fax: 516-520-8332

August, 2023

Dear Parents,

The safety of our children is the top priority of the Levittown School District. This letter outlines the major safety drills, code of conduct and sex offender notification system used throughout our schools.

In the summer of 2000, the New York State Legislature passed the S.A.V.E. Act, Safe Schools Against Violence in Education. This act is one of the most comprehensive regulations in the nation seeking to address school safety and violence prevention. The legislation covers several specific areas of concern which each district must address.

One such area is the development of a comprehensive School Safety Plan. Our District emergency plan, as well as detailed information about our safety drills including the annual Sheltering/Early Dismissal Drill, can be viewed on our District website under *Parent Resources*.

Another area outlined in the S.A.V.E. legislation is the District Code of Conduct, which is required for the maintenance of order on school grounds. The summary of our Code of Conduct, which must be distributed to all parents as required by law is included with this letter for your review. The entire Code of Conduct can be viewed on our District website under *Parent Resources*.

The Levittown School District uses an e-mail notification system developed by Parents for Megan's Law (PFML) for sex offender notifications. Funded by county, state and federal governments, PFML is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of childhood sexual abuse through the provision of education, advocacy, counseling, policy and legislative support services. Subscribers to PFML's e-mail alert system will be notified when a moderate or high-risk sex offender moves into the area. This service is provided to residents at no cost. To sign up for this email notification, go to the district website and click on *Parent Resources*.

Lastly, on September 13, 2010 The Dignity Act was signed into law and took effect on July 1, 2012. New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function. To find out more about this important legislation and what the District does to promote an environment where students feel safe, valued and connected, go to www.levittownschools.com.

If you have any questions related to student safety or for further information regarding The Dignity Act, please visit our Levittown Public Schools Website or you may contact my office. Good luck in the upcoming school year!

Sincerely

Debbie Rifkin Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

# PLEASE DON'T PASS A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS



- It's against the law
- It could result in serious fines
- It could result in a license suspension
- And it could result in something much, much worse

## Parents:

## **Important School Bus Safety Alert**

## HELP US PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN AS THEY TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Certain types of children's clothing can create a hazard as your child exits the school bus. Especially dangerous are:

- Long, dangling jacket or sweatshirt drawstrings
- Long backpack straps
- Long scarves or other loose clothing

Such items can be caught in the bus handrail, door, or other equipment as the child exits the bus.

In recent years, a number of children across the U.S. have had their clothing caught as they left the bus. Several children were dragged by the bus and then killed when the bus ran over them.

Please take the time to check your children's clothing to make sure it is safe.

Also, please talk with your children about these safety rules:

- Stay away from the DANGER ZONES around the bus.
- Don't try to pick up something dropped near the bus the bus driver might not see you.
- Remember that other motorists don't always stop for a stopped school bus – use extreme caution whenever getting on or off the bus.

### SCHOOL BUS SAFETY IS A TEAM EFFORT NOTHING IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN A CHILD'S LIFE

Courtesy of the Pupil Transportation Safety Institute: 800-836-2210 or 315-475-1836

# Attention parents

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Please be aware of the following:

If it becomes necessary for your child to have any kind of medical device or specific requirements due to injury (i.e. crutches, cast, boot, sling, splints,

special busing, etc.)

Medical clearance is <u>required</u> to ride the bus.

Please contact the School Nurse for details.





"Success for Every Student"

Phone (516) 434-7589 Fax (516) 520-8348

#### Town of Hempstead School Bus Safety Program Launch

Dear Parent,

As our students return to school this September, Levittown Public Schools is proud to announce the start of a new School Bus Safety Program in partnership with the Town of Hempstead, and in line with NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law 1174-A.

As part of the program, all Levittown owned school buses will be outfitted with safety technology to make the ride to and from school safer for everyone. This technology includes stop-arm enforcement cameras designed to detect vehicles that illegally pass stopped school buses while the bus's stop sign arm and red lights are engaged. The Town then reviews the footage to determine whether to issue a violation by mail.

The safety of our Levittown children is, and always will be, our top priority. The New York Association for Pupil Transportation estimates that motorists illegally pass stopped school buses in New York State 50,000 times a day, and Levittown is no exception. Over time, this safety initiative seeks to curb dangerous driving behavior around school buses.

All this technology has been provided at zero cost to the school district and its taxpayers. This program is 100% violator funded.

If you would like more information, we invite you to review it on our district website at www.levittownschools.com.

We look forward to seeing you this fall for the return to school!

Dajuana Reeves-Alston Supervisor of Transportation