



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HARRISBURG

Lincoln Administration Building
1601 State Street
Harrisburg, PA 17103
(717) 703-4000
Visit: www.hbgasd.us

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

March 17, 2022

Dear Harrisburg School District,

I am writing to provide details about our decision to move to a remote learning day for students and teaching staff at both SciTech and John Harris High School.

Late yesterday we learned of a threat written on a bathroom wall at John Harris Campus about a potential shooting this week. We wanted to have an opportunity to thoroughly investigate this message and ensure students and staff were not in danger as a result. At the same time, we received a report last night from Police Commissioner Carter that some teenagers were involved in a shooting in the City of Harrisburg and that a homicide had occurred not too far from our campus. As a result, we operated cautiously and felt that moving to remote learning for the day would give us a chance to assess the situation with the support of law enforcement.

In an unrelated matter, I want to inform you that a teacher at John Harris High Campus was arrested yesterday on charges of terroristic threats that caused serious public inconvenience for sending an email to some staff members that was threatening in nature. This teacher had no prior criminal history and full background checks were complete. The teacher was not at school prior to the statement. There was no imminent danger to students or staff.

These kinds of incidents are upsetting and concerning. We want to ensure our learning environments are safe, protected spaces where our students can thrive.

A community-organized meeting on creating a more peaceful community will be held at Harrisburg High School, John Harris Campus on Wednesday, April 27 from 6 - 8 p.m. The school district will be participating.

Thank you for your support as we do our best to make decisions in the interest of safety.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (717) 703-4000.

Sincerely,

Mr. Eric Turman
Superintendent

“We Are...One Harrisburg for ALL Students!”