



ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Rockaway Township School Community,

I hope everyone is well.

The events in Washington, D.C. yesterday serve to demonstrate how we all continue to live through extremely challenging and divisive times even beyond the pandemic conditions. As a school community, please know the overall safety and well-being of our students, staff, and families remain our top priority in all we do.

I know my communications these past few months were dominated by Covid-19 updates which I am sure can feel overwhelming at times. While they will need to continue until this pandemic is in our rearview mirror, let me shift gears for a moment.

With the events of yesterday, I thought I would take an opportunity to share some resources with our community about how to assist those who may be feeling heightened levels of emotion or anxiety about how best to assist children in processing these recent events.

[How to Talk to Your Child About the News](#)

[Talking to Children About Violence](#)

[How to Discuss Stressful Situations with Children](#)

[Talking to Children About Traumatic Events](#)

We remain on track to return all of our schools to hybrid instruction on January 19th. Since launching our hybrid model in September, our emphasis has been on staying connected and maintaining healthy relationships through these challenging times. If nothing else, the events in Washington, D.C. yesterday reinforce the importance of this commitment.

The 2020-2021 school year continues to present challenges not seen in generations. We will persevere through these challenges together and we will be better together. Please do not hesitate to reach out to a school leader or school counselor for any additional resources or support.

Warmest Regards,

Peter Turnamian, Ed. D.

Rockaway Township Schools... Opening minds, opening worlds so every child's potential becomes a reality and challenges become opportunities for personal success!