## Eastport-South Manor Central School District

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February 26, 2024

Dear Staff and Guardians,

This afternoon an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student sent a threatening message, using StudentSquare, to a staff member at the Junior-Senior High School. The building went into a "lockdown" as a result of this communication. Building security and administration immediately located the student who sent the message and removed them from the classroom. The Suffolk County P.D. arrived soon after and began their investigation into the matter. The building returned to normal operations in a short amount of time.

At the close of the day, a student informed their teacher that a 7<sup>th</sup> grade classmate made a disturbing verbal comment which was heard by other students. This student was located on the school bus and brought into the building for further investigation by our administrators, as well as to be reported to the Suffolk Police Officers, who were already on campus. The student admitted to making the comments to our building administration and police.

As you should expect, the parents of the students involved in both of these incidents were notified about the seriousness of these situations. In addition, the appropriate school consequences, regarding the gravity of such comments, will be put in place for each of these students.

I would like to take a moment to thank the officers of the Suffolk County Police Department for their assistance in these matters and their partnership in maintaining a peaceful and safe campus for our staff and students at Eastport-South Manor.

Rest assured that we will continue to educate our students about the severity of these type of behaviors, impose the penalties afforded a school district as a consequence for these matters, as well as, provide the needed social and emotional supports a school district has available to the students who need them.

As always, our top priority is the safety and security of our students and staff.

Sincerely

Joseph A. Steimel

**Superintendent of Schools**