Dayton Avenue School

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JOSEPH A. STEIMELSuperintendent of Schools



SHELITA WATKIS, PH.D

Principal

April 4, 2025

Dear Dayton Families:

We take student and staff health and safety very seriously and we strive to have our students learn in the safest environment possible at all times. In order to maintain a safe environment, and in accordance with NY State Education Laws, we conduct several emergency drills throughout the year.

Each school year before we have drills, we teach our students and staff about our emergency procedures to be sure that everyone knows what to do in an emergency. We teach in a trauma informed way, which means we try not to scare anyone or make it seem like a real emergency. In a developmentally appropriate way, we talk about the kinds of safety drills we will practice during the school year, how a safety drill will be announced, and what students should do in each type of safety drill. When we practice evacuation (fire) drills, the drill is announced by the fire alarm going off.

Within this coming week, we will be conducting a controlled, fire drill during the school day. Our building emergency plans are very comprehensive and are developed with input from local law enforcement, building and districtwide committees, Board of Education committees, and guidance from the NY State Education Department. Emergency plans are confidential to the building and although the exact details cannot be shared, please feel free to contact me with any concerns you may have at any time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Watkis