



**EASTPORT**  
Elementary School  
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**JOHN J. DEKAMS, JR.**  
Principal

January 29, 2026

Dear Eastport 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.

Within the next week, we will be conducting a controlled, announced lockdown drill during the school day. Our training drills are designed to teach students what to do during an emergency within a trauma-informed environment. We will avoid any tactics during this training exercise that may introduce or activate trauma, such as the use of actors, simulations, or the inclusion of developmentally or age-inappropriate content.

Please take a moment to review our [School Emergency Information Guide for Parents/Guardians](#) which provides helpful guidance on what to do during a school emergency. Our building-specific emergency plans are comprehensive and developed with input from local law enforcement, building and districtwide committees, Board of Education committees, and guidance from the NY State Education Department.

While these emergency plans are confidential and cannot be shared in detail, I encourage you to reach out to me at any time with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. John DeKams  
Principal  
Eastport Elementary School