## **Tuxedo Union Free School District**



**Jeffrey T. White Superintendent of Schools** 

January 26, 2024

Dear Tuxedo Parents and Caregivers,

The safety of everyone in our school community - students, employees and visitors - is critically important every day. As we move deeper into 2024, you will notice immediate enhancements to school security.

Supporting the district's security efforts is the Coordinator of Safety for Orange-Ulster BOCES, Duane Lopez. Mr. Lopez is a retired law enforcement executive and a recognized subject matter expert in school safety and security. Supported by the resources of Orange-Ulster BOCES, Duane will work closely with our administration and local law enforcement to continue to develop and implement upgraded school security efforts.

As we have stated previously, TUFSD works closely with local law enforcement every day to keep our students safe. We will continue to utilize a school safety deputy through our partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Starting next week, a professional security firm will provide trained personnel that will be stationed at the reception areas of both George F. Baker High School and George Grant Mason Elementary School. We believe the security firm's expertise and resources will better service TUFSD as we maintain safe learning and working environments.

As the world changes we must remain vigilant, therefore we continually revise and improve our safety plans using guidance from local and national law enforcement agencies and the New York State Education Department (NYSED). For security purposes, we must refrain from disclosing the details of those security plans and protocols.

The health and safety of our school community remains our number one priority and your support is of great importance to us as we work together to maintain a safe and secure learning and working environment.

Sincerely,

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Jeffrey T. White

Superintendent of Schools