



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 20, 2018

## **Reporting Campus Concerns – A Message from the SMMUSD Superintendent**

Dear SMMUSD staff, parents and community members,

As a community, we need to work together to keep our schools safe. If anyone - a student, parent, staff person or member of the community - sees something they perceive to be unsafe or something that doesn't seem right, it is critical that they take action and report the situation or incident immediately.

The best method to report something is directly to a school or district administrator. Please let us know the full detail of your concern, potential students involved and your name and contact information in case we have additional questions. Your report will be kept confidential at school and will be shared with local law enforcement for investigation. We take every report seriously and partner with the Santa Monica Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and other local agencies to investigate. We, along with these agencies, reach out to parents, speak to students, search backpacks and lockers and conduct home inspections as part of this process in a proactive manner with student and staff safety as our top priority.

We understand that sometimes people are reluctant to speak to the principal or school officials in fear that their identity may somehow be released, so we have a secondary option for reporting concerns anonymously.

We have been a WeTip partner for several years. WeTip is a great resource that is completely anonymous and a safe and simple way to report unsafe issues or concerns. WeTip offers anonymous crime and bullying reporting and anyone can report crime or bullying at 1-800-78-CRIME or online at [www.wetip.com](http://www.wetip.com). They have live operators 24/7 who are professionally trained specialists.

Remember - the safety of our students and our staff is a top concern and we all must do our part to ensure our schools are as safe as possible. Please report school concerns about weapons, crimes like drug use, vandalism, and incidences of bullying, and help make our schools a safer place to learn and play.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ben Drati  
Superintendent

### **SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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