

HASBROUCK HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Re: New Jersey Department of Human Services

Please be advised that the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DYFS) has established a toll free number that can be called any time of the day or night to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

New Jersey's Toll Free Abuse Hotline Will Ensure:

- Better reporting: Suspected abuse or neglect will more likely get reported because everyone will know how to make a report.
- More Consistent Outcomes: Trained hotline screeners will make decisions that are more consistent across the state and from case to case.
- Lower-risk reports will be diverted to more appropriate referrals: Fewer cases will be referred for abuse or neglect investigations as reports of problems with lower levels of risk to a child will be referred to appropriate services.
- Prompt investigations of abuse or neglect allegations: Hotline screeners will be trained to get complete information rapidly so response priorities can be set (i.e. immediate response or within 24 hours of the call) and investigators can get into the field with effective, efficient investigations as quickly as possible.

In New Jersey, every citizen - every teacher, doctor and neighbor - every person who comes into contact with a child and observes behavior or conditions that might indicate abuse or neglect is required by law to report their suspicions. Then, state authorities can investigate and take appropriate action.

1-877-NJ ABUSE
Make the call; save a child

As always, the administration and staff will always be on guard for any potential child abuse or neglect that they observe while children are present in school.

Any questions regarding this matter should be addressed with your child's building principal.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Luongo

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JCL/jc

C: Building Principals
Board of Education Members