



Salem Public Schools Families:

Salem Public Schools is committed to creating and sustaining a comprehensive, coordinated effort to improve the overall safety and well-being of our students, educators, and administrators.

Doing this effectively requires a proactive approach with programs that equip students, parents, caregivers teachers, administrators, local law enforcement, mental health and wellness professionals, and elected officials to take meaningful action to protect our schools.

Our students are aware of the problems and struggles that their peers are facing each day. We must empower them to know the signs of potential danger and give them the tools to help each other with the assistance of trained and caring adults. As you know, most conversations are taking place on social media, therefore it is critical that we teach our students to look out for one another in text, video, and photos and act quickly to help a fellow student.

Today, I am happy to announce the launch of the *Say Something Anonymous Reporting System* in the Salem Public Schools beginning on **Monday, March 10, 2025** for students in grades 4-12. Students in these grades will be trained by school based staff between March 10-April 4.

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System trains youth and adults how to recognize warning signs -- especially within social media -- of individuals who may be in crisis, and to tell a trusted adult directly or via the anonymous reporting system.

Specifically, the Say Something program educates participants to:

- Recognize the warning signs of someone who may be at-risk of harming themselves or others
- Take every warning sign and threat seriously; act immediately to get help by talking to a trusted adult OR reporting it through the telephone hotline, mobile app, or website that is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- Sustain the curriculum and awareness via student clubs, in-school activities, call-to-action weeks, and on-going trainings

Please double-click on the file below for a full brochure that provides more details about the program– <u>SS-ARS</u> <u>English</u> | <u>SS-ARS Spanish</u>.







About the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System program is provided at no cost by Sandy Hook Promise (SHP), a national nonprofit organization. The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office has partnered with Sandy Hook Promise and has urged school districts to utilize their support to help prevent violence and suicide in schools. More than 21 million people have participated in their research-based programs that include Say Something. They have a proven track record of working effectively with students, families, and educators to improve school safety and strengthen an inclusive school culture. The program is age-appropriate and evidence-informed. We strongly believe that this program will be an asset to our schools.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the SPS Safety Liaison, Lisa Golden, at egolden@salemk12.org or contact the administration at your child's school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Zrike, Superintendent

Stephen K. Zrike