

November 2024

We are committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for all students. In line with this commitment, we want to share a new initiative that the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) has adopted, the *Say Something Anonymous Reporting System*. This system complies with North Carolina General Statute § 115C-105.51, which requires schools to offer a safe and anonymous reporting tool for students.

The *Say Something Anonymous Reporting System* allows students to confidentially report safety concerns through a mobile website or telephone hotline. It is designed to address issues such as bullying, threats, mental health concerns, and more, ensuring that students have an additional outlet to voice concerns and help keep our school community safe. As part of this initiative, all students will receive training on how to use the reporting system during the month of November. This training will include a brief instructional video, reflection questions, and a guided walkthrough of the tool's features. This training will take place during the school day, in a structured environment with staff available to provide support and answer questions.

We also encourage families to visit the [program's website](#). On the website, parents can find more information about how the system works and its role in promoting school safety. Please note that the name of the website may spark questions from your child about the Sandy Hook tragedy. As your child's first teacher, we encourage you to take this opportunity to talk with your child about the importance of sharing concerns with trusted adults and ensuring open lines of communication at home and school.

While the *Say Something Anonymous Reporting System* will serve as a valuable resource, it is *not* a replacement for the relationships and open communication we encourage students to have with staff, trusted adults, and their families. We remain dedicated to building positive connections within our school community and ensuring that all students feel supported.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our school safe and supportive for all students. A brief FAQ is provided below.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System?

It is an age-appropriate, research-informed program that trains youth and adults to recognize warning signs and threats of potential violence and to tell a trusted adult or use the anonymous reporting system via app, website, or telephone hotline. This empowers students, parents, staff, and community members to securely share safety

concerns, helping school administrators and law enforcement members to prevent violence, suicide, bullying, self-harm, and other dangerous behaviors.

[Say Something Brochure](#)

[Say Something One Pager](#)

[Say Something Website](#)

How does the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System work?

Students and staff can submit a tip about concerning or threatening behaviors through the app, website, or a telephone hotline, 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. Every submission goes directly to a trained Crisis Counselor who vets the tip, gathers details, then shares the information and next steps with our school team and law enforcement (as needed). The team steps in to address the threat and provide solutions. WCPSS has a trained Say Something response staff that includes social workers, counselors, and administrators.

How does the system work?

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System can be used to report threatening or harmful behavior, harassment, and more. For example, imagine that a student, Thomas, is worried about a friend, Mary, who has been harming herself. Thomas isn't sure who he should tell and is afraid of being labeled a "snitch" or, worse, losing his friend. Thomas can anonymously report the concern through the Say Something Anonymous Reporting app, website or through a phone call. He can even share screenshots of social media posts that he may have seen about this. Highly trained crisis counselors immediately take action to ensure Mary is safe and getting the help and support she needs.

What happens to the tip if the individual reporting is threatening to hurt themselves?

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System's National Crisis Center and local Say Something team members are specifically trained to recognize mental and emotional disturbances and effectively manage crises. Depending on district protocols, psychiatric emergencies may be referred to the appropriate community mental health services. Law enforcement may conduct a welfare check.

Do I have to use the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System? Does my student?

Using the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System is completely voluntary.

Who is running this program?

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System is offered **at no cost** to schools and districts by Sandy Hook Promise (SHP), a national nonprofit that was founded and is led by family members whose loved ones were killed during the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy in 2012. SHP has trained more than 18 million educators, parents, and students nationwide to recognize the warning signs of potential violence and tell a trusted adult.

What about privacy?

WCPSS has been working with our school board's legal team to ensure that all key privacy standards are maintained. All data from our school community within the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System is owned by the district.

What if I have more questions about Say Something?

You may reach out to Dr. Corliss Thompson-Drew, WCPSS Director of School Psychology, at cthompsondrew@wcpss.net.