



Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Good Evening students, staff, and families of the Upper Darby School District,

In this uncertain time where various community members have expressed fear due to pronouncements from our nation's capital. I would like to express my and the District's commitment to promote an inclusive, safe, and welcoming learning environment for ALL of the students, staff, and families we serve. Every single day in this District, we work to reach our tagline of *Opportunity, Unity, and Excellence*.

Why does this matter and why do we take this so seriously here in the District?

As educators, we have one of if not *the* greatest daily responsibilities in the communities we serve. We work with young people whose lives are being shaped by what we teach them, how we model appropriate behaviors, and how we learn to respectfully agree, and at times, disagree with one another. During my time as Superintendent of this District, I have not shied away from our collective responsibility to provide safe opportunities for students and staff to work together to reach excellence. We recognize that this looks different for each and every one of us, but everyone deserves to have either people to turn to or a place to go to in their life that provides them with a caring and supportive environment. We will continue to do our best to create such emotionally nurturing schools. We are certainly not perfect, but please know that our goal is to give our best to you.

I recognize that there is a lot going on in the political world that orbits our schools; and some political decisions impact our learning environments. We also recognize that good people will have differing views and opinions. I want to assure you that we will continue to provide safe and inclusive learning environments for every student and staff member that enters our schools and classrooms. Last evening, Upper Darby Township Mayor Ed Brown provided a message to the community, and I wanted to echo my support for his words and leadership with this communication. I also wanted to share a link to resources provided by the Township for your review: [Community and Immigrant Resources](#).

I will continue to work closely with the Upper Darby Board of School Directors, Upper Darby Township Mayor Ed Brown, Upper Darby Township Chief of Police Tim Bernhardt, State Representative Gina Curry, and State Representative Heather Boyd to provide safe and supportive schools.

Thank you for your continued support!

Daniel P. McGarry, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Upper Darby School District