



Huntingdon Area School District  
2400 Cassady Avenue, Suite 2 • Huntingdon, PA 16652  
Phone: 814-643-4140

November 25, 2025

Dear Southside Families,

As you prepare to send your children to school this morning, I want to assure you that **Southside is a safe place for your children**. This correspondence is for informational purposes only. **School will be in session as normally scheduled on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.**

The police informed the district in the late afternoon on Monday, November 24th, that they had become aware that an upset individual living in the Southside attendance area expressed anger toward authorities and the school, then fled the area. **At no time was the person at the school. The police informed the district for awareness only.**

When dealing with the police and active investigations, it is difficult to disclose much information in the moment. **The first step will always be to get accurate information and ensure student safety through protocols appropriate to the situation.**

First, since the individual appeared to have a grievance, out of an abundance of caution, we followed safety protocols to keep all students and staff inside the school until the end of the day on Monday. Fourth and Fifth grade came into the gym for the last 5-8 minutes of recess. **No one was in harm's way at any time; this was a safety measure.** Learning continued as normal, with staff employing situational awareness without alarming students. The school resource was on site for precautionary measures.

Second, at dismissal time, we ensured we had extra staff outside, along with our resource officer and State Police. **Again, no one was in harm's way, but due to unknown circumstances in the area, we acted with caution.** Third, it was decided not to hold any after-hours events at the school as a precaution, pending further details about the situation.

The district monitored the situation under police guidance throughout the evening. The State Police reported to the district at 2 am that the individual had been placed in police custody and that there would be **no further concern.**

The district did not communicate earlier as there was no emergency, and we did not possess the details to share. Please note that unofficial district Facebook posts may create confusion and mistrust. Please rely on the direct district information and trust that the district will always prioritize safety precautions and protocols, and will communicate facts second.

Student-friendly facts to share with your children are that someone in the area near the school was angry. To protect you, the school staff had you stay inside the school and helped you get home yesterday. The person is now with the police to keep everyone safe. When you come to school, your teachers and staff will be happy to see you, and you might notice some police officers nearby, just to continue helping keep everything safe. If you have questions or feelings about what happened, you can always talk to your teacher. We also have helpers at school who are here to listen and help you feel safe.

*Jennifer Mitchell*

Superintendent