

Cynthia Seniuk, Ed.D. *Superintendent of Schools*

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please be aware that effective October 14, 2008, the Board of Education revised its policy regarding sex offender notifications. Up to this point in time, upon notification from local police authorities that a level 2 or level 3 offender was residing in our area, administration would send out a copy of the notice received from local police authorities. Frequently, these notifications, especially the pictures, were difficult to read. As per the newly revised policy, the school district will utilize a new sex offender alert notification system through the organization, Parents for Megan's Law.

Parents for Megan's Law (PFML) will e-mail District residents, who have registered, informing them of any new sex offender's presence and direct them to their website (www.parentsformeganslaw.com) where they can access a full copy of the notification. There is no cost to participate in this program.

This new policy will allow all subscribers to be informed of any sex offender notification implemented within Nassau and Suffolk County – not just offenders residing within our school boundaries. The adoption of this policy offers a more timely notification. In addition, it prevents educational resources from being used on costly mailings while giving residents an opportunity to be informed of all offenders within Nassau and Suffolk County, at no cost to them.

The District will no longer be sending mailings when notifications are received, but will continue to maintain these files for viewing, upon request, at the Central Administration Office located at the Harold D. Fayette School at 1057 Merrick Avenue, North Merrick, NY 11566. Residents can contact PFML directly at 631-689-2672 for subscription forms or go to their website at www.parentsformeganslaw.com or via a link from the District's website at www.nmerrickschools.org Those without internet access may utilize this system by means of the public library or contact Parents for Megan's Law for further instructions.

Please also be aware that in accordance with our policy, whenever information is received from local law enforcement officials under the Sex Offender Registration Act that a Level 2 or Level 3 registered convicted sex offender is residing within the school district, that information will be disseminated to building principals, and appropriate central office administrators. Principals will also share such information with appropriate building personnel. We will also make such notification information available upon request and will remind parents of the availability of the Parents for Megan's Law Sex Offender Email Alert Program via postal mailing, at new student registration, and via postings in the district calendar, newsletter and website.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact the Parents for Megan's Law Helpline at 631-689-2672 or visit their website at www.parentsformeganslaw.com.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cynthia Seniuk

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Superintendent of Schools