



Racist Graffiti Incident

[Mary O'Meara](#) • May 16 at 4:44 PM
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Good afternoon, POB School Community,

I write to you today with deep concern and disappointment to inform you of another incident involving hate-based vandalism at John F. Kennedy High School.

A racist word (N-word) was discovered written on the stall of a girls' bathroom. The incident was immediately reported to school administration, Nassau County Police Department was notified and responded, and a full investigation was launched. While our building has security cameras, none are located inside bathrooms, which presents a challenge. However, video footage from the hallway is being reviewed to identify any potential suspects among the approximately 20 students who entered the bathroom during the suspected time frame.

This is the second hate-based incident at JFKHS this week. In response, the high school will be holding student assemblies in the coming days to address the harm these actions cause and reinforce our collective responsibility to uphold a safe and inclusive school environment.

While we are all reeling with many emotions—anger, sadness, frustration—I want to assure our community that these acts do not reflect who we are as a school district. The individuals responsible for these hateful messages are two people among the 1,730+ students who attend POBJFKHS. Their behavior is not reflection of the values held by the overwhelming majority of our school community.

We strongly encourage anyone who has information that could support our ongoing investigations to use the [anonymous reporting app](#) available on the District's website. Sharing even the smallest detail could help us bring resolution and accountability to these disturbing events. Dr. Dvorak will send a follow-up communication on Monday outlining the educational and co-curricular programs in place to foster a hate-free environment, along with the disciplinary consequences issued to students who engage in hate speech or conduct. It is essential that our community understands both the educational supports we provide and the serious consequences that accompany actions that target or harm others.

Finally, I urge all families to take time this weekend to speak with your children about the significance of these events. We are all responsible for the environment in which we learn and work. It will take all of us to reduce the likelihood of hate-based incidents on our campuses.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary O'Meara

Superintendent of Schools