

# PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803

[www.pobschools.org](http://www.pobschools.org)



*Dr. Mary O'Meara*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

May 19, 2023

Good afternoon, POB School Community.

I am writing to you this afternoon to correct a significant mistake on the part of *The Patch*. In an article, Nassau County Legislator, Arnie Drucker, is quoted as saying two students at Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School have "detailed how they face antisemitism on a daily basis." This article has been taken down. The facts are that two POBJFKHS students in our Advocacy Club have been working to combat antisemitism on Long Island and were invited to speak about their efforts at a recent event at the Nassau County Legislative Offices. At this event, a student from another high school recounted the daily antisemitic comments heard in that high school. The reporter confused the facts and Mr. Drucker has requested a revised article to be published.

I have spoken with a community member who posted this article on Facebook and called. I am grateful for her call which allowed us to address this misinformation immediately. I encourage our community to actively reach out if there are reports that contradict what you believe our school community is about and what it values. This message provides me an opportunity to highlight the incredible work of the POBJFKHS Advocacy Club and our students who were recently honored at Adelphi University for their work in combatting antisemitism, creating and premiering their documentary, *Names, Not Numbers* at the Suffolk JCC, and hosting the POB School Community for the production of *From the Fires: Voices of the Holocaust* and conversations to honor Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Lastly, all of the POB Schools have received a *No Place for Hate* distinction from the Anti-Defamation League as a result of student work in all schools to create environments that have all students feeling a sense of belonging.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. Please feel free to reach out to [AsktheSupt@pobschools.org](mailto:AsktheSupt@pobschools.org) should you have any questions.

Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary O'Meara

Superintendent of Schools