

Dear Charter Arts Families:

As a school, we are committed to creating and sustaining a comprehensive, coordinated effort to improve the overall safety and well-being of our students, educators and administrators.

**Recently, the state of Pennsylvania launched the “Safe2Say Something” (S2SS) anonymous reporting system.** This program, which is mandated under PA state law / Act 44, teaches students, teachers, and administrators how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, of individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and *Say Something* to a trusted adult OR use its anonymous reporting system. Specifically, the program educates participants to:

- Recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behaviors – especially within social media
- Take every sign and signal seriously; act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult OR
- Report it anonymously through the S2SS Office of the Attorney General 24/7 Crisis Center, mobile app, or website
- Respond to and manage the submitted tip via a school-based multi-disciplinary educator and administrator teams
- Sustain the curriculum and awareness via student clubs, in-school activities and call-to-action weeks

Charter Arts students will be first introduced to the S2SS program at the end of January in small, artistic department/grade level meetings. Students will then will engage in more robust training in grade level assemblies on February 7th. As the topics addressed in the trainings may be difficult for some students, counselors will be available to support students as needed.

Our students often are aware of the problems their peers are facing, so we must empower them to know the danger signs and give them the tools to help each other with the assistance of trained and caring adults. As you know, most conversations are taking place on social media, therefore it is critical that we teach our students to be looking out for one another as these digital conversations are taking place. S2SS teaches them what to look for in text, video and photos while empowering them to act quickly to help a fellow student.

Please [select this link for a full brochure](#) outlining the S2SS program. Additional information can also be found on our school [website](#). The S2SS program is being provided through Sandy Hook Promise (SHP), a nationwide non-profit organization. SHP’s programs are in 50 states – with 10,000+ schools and over 5.5 million students and adults trained. They have a track record, reputation, and knowledge of how to work effectively with kids, parents, and teachers to improve school safety and culture. The program is age-appropriate and research-based. They also have funding to provide and sustain the program at NO COST to our school (and all schools statewide).

The Attorney General anticipates that S2SS will help stop school shootings, suicides, and gun threats; it will help reduce bullying and cyberbullying; help intervene upon cutting, drug use, racial conflicts, and other violent and victimization acts.

If after reviewing the S2SS materials you have additional questions or concerns, please contact your child’s school counselor or grade level assistant principal.

Sincerely,

MaryJo Rosania-Harvie  
Assistant Principal, School Safety Coordinator

#### Mission Statement

*The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts provides a unique environment that fosters a creative, rigorous academic approach to learning and a development of talents in the arts. Built on passion, discipline and a commitment to excellence, this integrative educational experience inspires all students to believe in who they are and in what they can accomplish.*