

HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL  
287 CEDAR STREET  
HANOVER, MA 02339



OFFICE 781-878-5450  
GUIDANCE 781-878-3990  
FAX 781-871-0590

**MATTHEW MATTOS**  
Principal

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

**MATTHEW PLUMMER**  
Curriculum Director

**KELLY STUKENBORG**  
Assistant Principal

**KERI MORRISON**  
Special Education Director

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Dear HHS families,

I am writing to inform you of a recent trend on the social media platform TikTok that is causing damage and violence in schools across the nation. Students are encouraged to carry out different "challenges" each month that vandalize schools and school property, or that may cause physical harm to students or staff. To date, we have not experienced the violent or significantly destructive incidents that are being reported around the country, and we expect our students will continue to rise above these appalling social media trends.

To be clear, Hanover High School will not tolerate this behavior in any form, and will immediately discipline any student(s) who participates in any of these challenges that may cause harm to our school, our students or staff in any way.

Any student who participates in these destructive, dangerous, and degrading behaviors, or any similar trend of this nature, will be subject to disciplinary action to the highest degree possible--including suspension and/or expulsion. Additionally, any student who causes physical harm to another person, or damage to school property, may be subject to arrest and could be charged with a crime. As a reminder, theft, vandalism, and assault are serious crimes that are often considered a felony and will be reported to the Hanover Police Department for investigation in accordance with our Memorandum of Understanding with the HPD.

Thank you for your understanding, collaboration and support as we promote safety and mutual respect in our school. Hanover High School students are thoughtful and supportive of each other. We are far better than this national trend, and we are committed to preventing this dangerous behavior in our school community.

Matthew Mattos  
Principal

*"The Hanover High School Community provides a competitive and challenging curriculum specific to individual educational needs, empowering students to succeed in the academic, social, and civic arenas. We believe that respect, compassion, and empathy promote a positive climate that fosters school spirit and unity. Within a safe and secure environment, students develop academic and personal independence, self-motivation, artistic appreciation, creativity, social responsibility, and global awareness."*