



## Pearl River School District

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**Marco F. Pochintesta, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

## False News Report

January 12, 2023

Dear Pearl River School District Families,

Earlier today, I received information that local media outlets were broadcasting false news stories mentioning the Pearl River School District. Specifically, reporter Sean Adams of WCBS News Radio 880, and 1010 WINS falsely reported that three incidents of anti-LGBTQ+ acts were committed this school year in our high school and are under investigation by Orangetown Police. This unwarranted mention of Pearl River High School was part of the reporter's "morning drive" coverage of this week's disturbing incident of hate-fueled vandalism targeting the Pride Center in Nyack.

As a result of this inexcusable incident, we have taken the following steps:

- The district contacted WCBS/WINS radio to demand a correction - including the removal of any mention of the Pearl River School District in the story about vandalism at Nyack's Pride Center.
- The district demanded an on-air apology on both WCBS and WINS.

I cannot convey to you how disappointing this false reporting incident is. But, times of trial are the times that forge strong community bonds. I am confident that this will be a powerful example of exactly that - helping our students, staff and families to persevere through all unforeseen challenges.

Dr. Marco Pochintesta

Superintendent of Schools  
Pearl River School District