

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUSINESS OFFICE
The James E. Stevenson Board of Education Building
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Katherine Attwood
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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November 25, 2024

Notice of Security Incident

Dear [REDACTED]:

Hamilton Township School District ("HTSD") writes to notify you of an incident that may affect the privacy of certain information related to you. This letter includes information about the incident, our response, and resources we are making available to you in an abundance of caution.

What Happened? On October 30, 2023, HTSD observed unusual activity on our computer network and immediately began an investigation with the assistance of third-party specialists. The investigation determined that certain files on the HTSD network were accessed without authorization between October 22 and October 30, 2023. Therefore, HTSD began a thorough review with the assistance of third-party specialists to determine the information contained in the files at issue and to whom the information related.

What Information Was Involved? The third-party review determined the files at issue included your name in combination with the following: [REDACTED].

What We Are Doing. In response to this incident, we promptly notified law enforcement and implemented additional network security measures. We have no reason to believe there has been or will be any fraud or misuse of information as a result of this incident, and we took steps to prevent any such fraud or misuse. Nonetheless, we are offering you access to twenty-four (24) months of complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services in an abundance of caution.

What You Can Do. We encourage you to enroll in the complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services we are making available to you. Information about how to enroll in these services along with additional resources available to you are included in the attached *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*.

For More Information. We understand you may have questions about this incident. You may contact our dedicated assistance line at [REDACTED], Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding holidays or write to us at 90 Park Avenue, Hamilton, NJ 08690.

We regret any concern this incident may cause you.

Sincerely,

Hamilton Township School District

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STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Enroll in Credit Monitoring / Identity Protection

To enroll in Credit Monitoring services at no charge, please log on to [REDACTED] and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following multi-use code to receive services:

In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

Once you are enrolled, you will be able to obtain twenty-four (24) months of unlimited access to your TransUnion credit report and credit score. The daily credit monitoring service will notify you if there are any critical changes to your credit file at TransUnion, including fraud alerts, new inquiries, new accounts, new public records, late payments, change of address and more. The subscription also includes access to identity restoration services that provides assistance in the event your identity is compromised to help you restore your identity and up to \$1,000,000 in identity theft insurance with no deductible. (Policy limitations and exclusions may apply.)

If you have questions about your online credit monitoring benefits, need help with your enrollment, or need help accessing your credit report, or passing identity verification, please contact the Customer Service Team toll-free at [REDACTED], Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding holidays.

Monitor Your Accounts

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your credit reports and account statements for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Under U.S. law, you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, TransUnion, Experian, and Equifax. To order your free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228. Once you receive your credit report, review it for discrepancies and identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting bureau.

You have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, you have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without your express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a credit freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. Address for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (e.g., state driver’s license or identification card); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft, if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a fraud alert or credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

<p>TransUnion 1-800-680-7289 www.transunion.com</p> <p>TransUnion Fraud Alert P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016-2000</p> <p>TransUnion Credit Freeze P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094</p>	<p>Experian 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com</p> <p>Experian Fraud Alert P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013</p> <p>Experian Credit Freeze P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013</p>	<p>Equifax 1-888-298-0045 www.equifax.com</p> <p>Equifax Fraud Alert P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069</p> <p>Equifax Credit Freeze P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788</p>
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Additional Information

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the credit reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), or your state Attorney General. The FTC also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. The FTC may be reached at 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; www.identitytheft.gov; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261.

You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement, your state Attorney General, and the FTC. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023; and www.oag.state.md.us.

For New York residents, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or <https://ag.ny.gov>.

For North Carolina residents, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and www.ncdoj.gov.

