



**THOMAS ALVA EDISON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**JOHN C. FAREIRA SKILLS CENTER**  
151 WEST LUZERNE STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19140-2795

September 23, 2021

Dear Thomas A. Edison High School Families,

This letter is to inform you of an incident that occurred at our school yesterday and outline the steps we are taking to heal as a school community. During the school day, tensions prompted a fight, which caused commotion and movement in the hallway during our classroom transition. This caused a chain reaction of arguments leading to more than forty students involved in altercations. As a result, the school was placed on lockdown for about 20 minutes and the members of the Philadelphia Police Department were onsite to provide support for de-escalation.

Let me be clear that this behavior will not be tolerated in our school. In response, we will have 3 additional full-time and 2 part-time climate staff members onsite and have restructured administrative supports to maintain a safe school environment. Today, we engaged in mediation and will have a town hall with all students and as we begin to heal our school-wide community climate.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this incident by calling the main office at (215) 400-3901.

Sincerely,



Awilda Ortiz

Principal, Thomas A. Edison High School