



Mark Toback, Ed.D.  
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June 3, 2020

Dear Students, Staff, Families and Residents:

The recent death of George Floyd is a sad and disturbing moment in our country's history that sparked fear, anger, and protests across the nation. We acknowledge the pain and anger that so many in our community and our nation are feeling. As you may be aware, a Wayne Township Public School student recently made a hateful comment on social media about African-Americans. We abhor any racist statements made by any member of our school community as we understand that such statements will only serve to fuel hatred and further divide us. The matter is being addressed by the District under applicable policies and has been referred to the Wayne Police Department for further review.

These statements do not represent our District and do not support our core values of inclusivity and respect. We strive to educate all of our students every day to stand up against bias and discrimination and to value one another. We emphasize these values in the Wayne Township Public Schools through classroom lessons, character education programs, our actions as adult role models, and our District program *No Place for Hate*. *No Place for Hate* teaches our students to advocate against prejudice and discrimination and to reach out in support of those who are targets of hate. Board of Education trustees, administrators, and all of our staff members continue our mission to promote a school climate where respect for diversity and inclusivity is taught each day.

The world changes one person at a time. In the wise words of Leo Buscaglia, "Change is the end result of all true learning." Our hope is that through continuing education, all members of the WTPS community can become part of a rising force for positive change that will once and for all eradicate the scourge of racism and bigotry that continues to plague our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Toback".

Mark Toback, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools