

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Dear Middle School Families,

First, and most importantly, I hope that you will join me in taking time to be thoughtful, prayerful, and to take action to respond to the injustice we witnessed in the murder of Mr. George Floyd. Of course as our city and country remain in protest and turmoil, we also lift up all who are rightfully protesting and exercising their freedom of speech as well as those impacted in significant ways through violence and looting. Yesterday and in the final two days, Middle School history teachers are delivering a thoughtful and factual lesson that covers the events of the past several weeks. Lessons scheduled for today will be pushed to tomorrow and Monday. I encourage you to speak with your children about the lesson, to inquire about their takeaways, and to be open to their questions and feelings. Additionally, we offered two separate optional Zoom gatherings on Tuesday afternoon. One was for our black and African American students, and the other was open to everyone. We will be holding additional optional gatherings for students next week to continue the conversation. Finally, you will see several articles and resources pasted below for those who would like to further explore how to talk to your children about race and racial bias. I encourage you to take a look and to have these important conversations.

As always, thank you for your support and partnership this year. Please don't hesitate to be in touch.

Take care,

Jonas

Resources for Parents of School-Aged Children

- [Talking to Children About Racial Bias](#)
- [“Talking to Children After Racial Incidents” \(Interview with Howard Stevenson\)](#)
- [“Teaching Young Children About Race”](#)
- [“We need more white parents to talk to their kids about race, especially now”](#)
- [“Beyond the Golden Rule” \(Teaching Tolerance\)](#)

Healing Resources for People of Color

- [Ongoing Violence and Black Mental Health](#)
- [Black Lives Matter Meditation for Healing](#)
- [Surviving and Resisting Hate: A Toolkit for People of Color](#)

Resources for Anti-Racist White Allies

- [What Can White People Do by Dr. Ali Michael](#)
- [Anti-Racism Resources for White People: How White People Can Be Better Allies](#)