

June 4, 2020

Dear Haldane Community,

The suffocation of George Floyd is just one of several recent acts that have illustrated the continued injustice that African Americans face in our country. These explicit acts of racism only partially reveal the deeply embedded, systemic forces of racism that exist in many of our institutions.

We are not a racially diverse community. Some may take that fact and see the issues portrayed in the news as separate from us. I suggest that our lack of diversity is the very reason why we have an even greater responsibility to examine racism in our country, and to actively seek out and dismantle the policies and practices that perpetuate racism in our communities. Not only do we have this responsibility to our black students and their families, but also to the collective humanity of which we are all a part.

Our public schools play an important role in helping our children become forces of justice in our society. For Haldane, this means teaching our students what racism is in all its forms, what it means to be an antiracist, and how to disrupt and dismantle systems which perpetuate inequity in our communities and institutions.

Our faculty and staff remain committed to this work.

Sincerely,  
Phil Benante, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools