

# Tomlinson Middle School

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Anthony Formato, Principal

Jodi Sacks, Assistant Principal

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October 19, 2021

Dear Tomlinson Families,

I am writing to inform you that a student drew a swastika and a reference to an international gang on their personal property and it was large enough to be visible to the students seated near them. The Fairfield Public Schools and the Tomlinson Community do not tolerate such behavior. We stand against anti-semitic or hate speech, any acts of racism, or any organization that participates in such activities. The Fairfield Police Department has been notified and their investigation is ongoing.

When we learn of any hateful acts that cause fear, hurt, or anger we strive to be transparent in our communication and support the entire Tomlinson community. Tomlinson represents a diverse community and we are very proud of and celebrate our diversity. We strongly condemn the actions of anyone that would communicate such hateful and offensive content. Our school social worker, counselors, and psychologist are available to support any students or families who would like to talk more about this. We will continue to work together to ensure that all of our students feel safe, supported, and valued.

Here are some tools that might be helpful if your family would like to engage with your children:

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/talking-about-racism>

<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/parent-family-and-caregiver-resources>

<https://www.nationalgangcenter.gov/Content/Documents/Parents-Guide-to-gangs.pdf>

Sincerely,

Anthony Formato, Principal