



2700 KEARNS BOULEVARD
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**Public Statement by the Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools and Principal,
Treasure Mountain Jr. High
June 14, 2024**

As the Superintendent of Schools and Principal of Treasure Mountain Jr. High along with the Board of Education, we would like to address the TMJH yearbook current event entry on the Israel-Hamas War that failed to acknowledge the October 7, 2023 surprise attack on Israel in which approximately 1,200 Israelis and others were killed and several hundred hostages taken by Hamas-led militant groups. We personally regret any pain or distress the publication and distribution of this yearbook caused within our community, especially to our Jewish families.

As a school community, we must never minimize the impact that events like those that occurred in Israel can have on members of our community. As a school district, we strive to be better at caring for and supporting our students, families, and staff who are personally affected by events like the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Immediate Actions

To directly address and repair the harm inadvertently caused by the yearbook entry, we commit to immediately complete the following steps:

- 1. Review and Training:** We are conducting a thorough review of our editorial processes for all school publications. Additionally, we will provide training to teachers and students on how to handle and present sensitive topics with the necessary context and empathy.
- 2. Yearbook Correction:** We will create and distribute a correction adhesive to the Treasure Mountain yearbook that addresses the omission.
- 3. Counseling Support:** We will offer District-provided counseling and support services to any students or staff affected by this incident, ensuring they have the resources needed to process and discuss their feelings.
- 4. Interfaith Council:** We will continue to meet and work with our Interfaith Council to ensure two-way communication, to seek guidance from community leaders, and to ensure partnership in support of our community.

E D U C A T I O N A L E X C E L L E N C E



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Commitment to Improvement

Park City School District is committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful environment. As a part of the agreement we recently entered into with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR), we are working on revisions to our policies and reporting procedures to prevent, address, and resolve complaints of discrimination and harassment in the district.

Please access the revised district [non-discrimination policy](#).

Moving forward, we will:

- Implement a more rigorous review process for all school publications to prevent similar issues.
- Engage with cultural sensitivity experts to provide technical assistance and support in a manner consistent with applicable law.
- Encourage student-led initiatives that promote civil discourse and understanding of complex global issues.
- Widely publish information regarding our revised policies, procedures and reporting forms so that bullying, harassment, and discrimination can be promptly reported, documented, investigated, and resolved. Please access the current [reporting form](#).

We sincerely apologize for the distress this issue has caused. We are taking concrete steps to address the situation and to prevent it from happening in the future. Our goal is to build a school community where every member feels valued, respected, and understood. When our families know they belong in the district, our students feel safe to engage, learn, and succeed in their education.

Thank you for your understanding and mutual support.

Sincerely,

Andrew Caplan
President, Board of
Education

Wendy Crossland
Vice President, Board
of Education

Dr. Jill Gilde,
Superintendent of
Schools

Caleb Fine
Principal, Treasure
Mountain Junior High
School

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE