



NORDONIA HILLS CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To the Nordonia Hills City School District Community,

I write to you as we witness tremendous pain, sorrow, anger and concern around our nation. Recent incidents in Minneapolis, Louisville, Central Park and southern Georgia have reminded us that racism and systemic injustice is real.

Each act of discrimination and violence carries with it a significant and sustained impact, especially among those targeted. George Floyd is a tragic example of the unique ways many students, faculty, staff and community members have experienced discrimination. We are clearly in the midst of troubled times, and we of the Nordonia Schools Community are now presented with a collective and crucial opportunity.

We recognize the hate and discrimination that continues to infect our country and world. To face such truth requires compassion. We also witness the tremendous goodness found within our diverse school district, and we fully believe in our capacity to create and sustain common good.

The challenges before us might seem impossible to overcome. Our response must meet the importance of this moment, to build a community where hate and intolerance are not just condemned and rejected, but eliminated. We are called to embody the values of fairness, justice, love and inclusion for all. We must choose—through our words, thoughts and actions—to emerge as a stronger and more just community.

We grieve for the families who have lost loved ones and for those who are suffering. It is not enough to try to imagine what others are going through; we must have the respect and resolve to do something about it. When we engage one another with kindness and compassion, we are working to ensure the dignity and worth of all.

As the educational leader of the community, I am committed to doing everything in my power to foster a culture of justice and peace, fairness and equality, compassion and understanding. May we all answer the call to eliminate racism and injustice wherever we find it, and to promote respect, compassion and love towards one another.

With hope,

Joe Clark, Ph.D.
Superintendent