

Kentwood Public Schools

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Dear Parents/Guardians, Students and Staff:

Over the last several months our country has witnessed violence and discriminatory actions against the Asian community. As for Kentwood Public Schools, we want the Asian community, and all our students, to know that we stand together against any form of prejudice or violence. Words can be hollow in times when behaviors overshadow what is said. But let us be clear: At KPS we are committed to long term change within our society around the issues of racism, social injustice and inequity. We are committed to excellence and equity for all!

To that end, regardless of what happens, our behaviors will speak louder than our words. We need to continue working together for positive change in our Kentwood community and the world. Our love of diversity in Kentwood serves as a role model for other communities. We believe that our ongoing work has made a difference and will continue to do so. The leadership team, teachers, staff, and students are working hard to educate ourselves and bring about change in our community, our region and our world when it comes to violence, social injustice, racism, and inequity.

We invite you to support our efforts and commit to bringing a long term focus for change with a mindset of grit and persistence. In the face of despair and disappointment, we are committed to building a better world, not because of what others do or do not do, but because of who we are and the values that we hold dear! **Together**, we will persist and bring about change.

Yours in service,

Michael Zoerhoff Superintendent

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