



June 5, 2020

Dear CCSD93 Community,

In light of recent events, as leaders of the Board of Education and the school district, it is critical that we voice support for our students, families, staff and community members of color. To those who have been marginalized because of the color of your skin, we acknowledge the pain you likely feel at this time. In no uncertain terms, the Board of Education and the school district condemns the murder of Mr. George Floyd in Minneapolis. We are saddened by this loss and deeply disturbed by the events that led to this unnecessary tragedy. At CCSD93, we feel we must speak out against racism. Silence only contributes to the problem.

Tragic events such as this remind us that there is still much work to be done to create more inclusive environments – for our students, our community, our nation and our world. CCSD93's guiding mission clearly highlights our commitment to equity, as we strive to maximize the academic, social and emotional potential of each student. It is critical that all of our students, families, and staff members feel safe and welcome in our classrooms, and that learning opportunities are reflective of, and applicable to, each of our experiences and our lives.

As a school district, we take our responsibility to foster empathy and kindness very seriously each and every day. Our schools are diverse learning environments, reflecting our vibrant community, where we strive to teach our students acceptance and belonging. Our classrooms are places for us all to recognize, understand and appreciate our differences. We continue our commitment to educate our students about our country's long and continuing struggle for each person, regardless of circumstance or background, to have an equal opportunity to realize the ideals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We are devoted to ensuring students are healthy, engaged, challenged, safe, and socially and emotionally supported. In 2018 our district initiated an Equity and Excellence Committee. In it, staff members have been at work examining our systems, curriculum and instruction, employment and retainment, student voice and culture, and community and family engagement. This is done through the lens of removing bias and increasing diversity and cultural sensitivity to create more equitable experiences throughout the district so all of our students and families have greater opportunities to know they are an equally vital part of the CCSD93 community. Leading a district-wide coordinated effort requires that we ensure that cultural responsiveness permeates through all levels of our district, from teaching and learning, to transportation and facilities, to professional development and community engagement. While we have much work still to do, the next phase in the Committee's work is to add more parent perspective. As we seek to accomplish this, we ask you as a parent to consider lending your voice to the Committee. If you are interested in serving, please complete the form linked at <http://www.ccsd93.com/EandE> if you have not done so already.

Our district must ensure that students leave our schools fully prepared to contribute to, participate in and succeed in a society that is more racially, ethnically and socioeconomically diverse than ever before. CCSD93 will continue to practice equity and inclusion in district policies, curriculum and actions. We believe in kindness, compassion, inclusion and equity. We stand against racism, violence and hatred. District 93 does not discriminate on the basis of color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, veteran status or disability. Today, and always, we stand with you against injustice.

Sincerely,

David H. Hill, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
CCSD93

Keith Briggs
School Board President
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Early Childhood Center

Carol Stream School

Cloverdale School

Elsie Johnson School

Heritage Lakes School

Roy DeShane School

Western Trails School

Jay Stream Middle School

Stratford Middle School