## Washington Township Public Schools



## Eileen Abbott Central Administration Building

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January 7, 2020

Dear WTPS Families,

First, I want to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. After an exhausting and exceptional 2020, better days are ahead for all of us. With the rollout of the vaccines, we are finally beginning to see the light at the end of this very long tunnel, and I know we all want the pandemic to be in our collective rearview mirror as soon as possible.

After the events in our nation's capital on January 6<sup>th</sup>, I wanted to share with you what we continue to do to support our kids during challenging times such as these.

Last evening a meeting was held involving our social studies teachers and school leaders to plan on how to best assist our students in making sense of such events and to support them as they struggle to understand what is going on around them. Our staff is committed to being there for our kids and I am very proud of their level of caring and the initiative they showed in wanting to be prepared. Additionally, information and resources were shared out with all our teachers and counselors so that we could collectively support our kids, as needed.

Counselors were reminded to keep our mission of our WTPS Building Better People program in the forefront of our student interactions. We want to continue to instill those important competencies that will ultimately create a foundation to build good citizens. Below are a few immediate resources that were shared:

ASCA Resource: <u>Helping Students in Troubling Times</u>
Teaching Tolerance Resource: <u>When Bad Things Are Happening</u>

We hope that this information and resources can be helpful to you as well. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's school should you need any assistance.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. Bollendorf

Superintendent, Washington Township Public Schools