



April 15, 2021

Dear Washington Township Staff and Families,

We feel, during these very turbulent times, the need to recognize the ongoing traumatic, racist, and insensitive events occurring across our nation that are impactful to our students, staff, and families. As a District, we are working to provide safe spaces for our students and teachers to express their feelings and concerns. We strive to support our Black, Asian, and minoritized students, as well as any student struggling in these times, and will continue to work towards equity and improving our school community.

Our Board of Education, administration, and staff endeavor to promote these ideals every day and embed them within our curricula, utilizing our Building Better People and No Place for Hate initiatives – all of which is driven by the work and efforts of our school culture and climate goals and our Equity Council. We recognize that students and families are experiencing trauma for a variety of reasons, and we want our school community to know that we are prepared not only to listen, but also to support, teach, and educate ourselves and each other so that all Washington Township students experience a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment.

If your student needs assistance or would like to speak to someone, we encourage you to contact your student's assigned school counselor listed in the links below for support and services:

- [Grenloch Terrace Early Childhood Center School Counselor](#)
- [Bells Elementary School Counselor](#)
- [Birches Elementary School Counselor](#)
- [Hurffville Elementary School Counselor](#)
- [Thomas Jefferson Elementary School Counselor](#)
- [Wedgwood Elementary School Counselor](#)
- [Whitman Elementary School Counselor](#)
- [Bunker Hill Middle School Counselors](#)
- [Chestnut Ridge Middle School Counselors](#)
- [Orchard Valley Middle School Counselors](#)
- [Washington Township High School Counselors and Student Assistance Coordinators](#)

Additionally, please utilize these [WTPS Counseling Department Race and Equity Resources](#) and learning tools regarding race and racism to help families in discussions at home.

We will continue to provide our staff, students, and families with tools, resources, and support to help address issues and practices of racism, bias, and discrimination, whether systemic or implicit, that may cause harm to our students. We encourage you to reach out, to ask for assistance, and to inform us of your needs as we strive towards equity as a public institution.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. Bollendorf, Superintendent