

June 8, 2020

EECHS Family,

The time for equality and equity in our country for all Americans—regardless of skin color, gender, religion, national origin, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or zip code—is long since passed. For the Black community, the tragic death of George Floyd due to excessive use of police force is the latest affront in a 400-year history of abuse, cruelty, racism, and inhumane treatment in our country. This cannot continue, and it is each of our responsibilities to make things better.

As one of many leaders at our school, I acknowledge my personal responsibility to ensure that our school is safe, supportive, and affirmational for each scholar. It hurts me that we are not together in person as our nation struggles with the raw emotions of the moment. Please know that we are together in spirit and that, in the spirit of Ubuntu, “I am because we are.”

Our school stands in solidarity with the Black community. We will honor George Floyd by working to ensure that our school is not only non-racist but anti-racist. None of us is perfect, and we all must own our biases, but we must also own our responsibility to make this world better for all people.

As Abraham Lincoln said, we must work to create “a more perfect Union.” And as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., reminded us, we exist in “an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

Please take a moment to feel the unity of spirit in these photos from this weekend’s sympathy walk in Tarboro. Please know that each of you is loved, each of you matters, and each of you has a bright future ahead of you. We see you.

MS

