



Opportunity • Unity • Excellence

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

The Chauvin Trial has resurrected emotions from this past summer for many students and has engaged some in deeper conversations about race in America. The shocking death of George Floyd and the subsequent trial have ignited courageous conversations, frustrations and heightened emotion. For many students in our diverse population, these events have resulted in further racial trauma and feelings of being emotionally taxed.

It is the goal of Upper Darby School District to continue to engage in the hard work of addressing and resolving biases and systemic racism and to continue to strive to provide the safest, and most equitable and conducive environment for our students and school district community. We are deeply committed to our Board-adopted [Anti-Racism Resolution](#), which states, in part:

WHEREAS, we must center the voices of staff, students, families, and communities who have historically endured discrimination and marginalization. Their lived experiences and stories require attention, require respect, require empathy, and most importantly require action. Therefore, it is essential that we establish an expectation that a diversity of students, families, and community members, specifically those that have been ignored, discriminated against, and marginalized, are heard and included on substantive school and district issues.

Upper Darby School District prides itself on the diversity of our students and promotes equity, humanity and inclusivity. Disproportionate treatment based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion and other identities contradict our core values. We encourage all of our students to be introspective and reflective about their own views, ideas and beliefs and those of others.

We want our students to know we are here to support them and their families. Resources on social-emotional learning, trauma-informed care, and positive ways to discuss racism and racial trauma have been shared with school principals to further support our students and school communities. Please join us as we continue to strive toward *Opportunity, Unity* and *Excellence* through Equity to put an end to injustice and racism.