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Dear Whitefish Bay Families and Community,

The tragic deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and many others have brought our culture to a flash point over systemic racial injustice in our society. As a district, we felt it was an important moment to remind our school community of how we value diversity and condemn all acts of racism, racial violence, and abuse. Racial equity is a core construct of the values stated in our [District Focus Plan](#) which sets a vision for providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all. Specifically:

- **Respecting the diversity of our students and engaging them as individual learners in an innovative learning community.**
- **Addressing the needs of the whole child in a caring, inclusive environment.**
- **Empowering students with the knowledge, skills, and character necessary to thrive in a changing, global society.**

Developing an understanding of the complexities of racism will be vital to our society as we move forward. We recognize that we as a community have work to do. All of us should talk with our children and the people around us about race and racial injustice. Race-conscious and anti-racist children will enhance our local and broader communities. As a District, we will continue to build understanding and foster the belief that “all means all.”

During this painful time in our nation we must pull together to break down barriers to understanding and acceptance. We remain committed to the academic as well as the social and emotional work that is required in our schools so that all students can learn and thrive. Amid the pandemic shutdown, we continue to work diligently to connect with and support all students and families through this time of remote learning. For those students or families in need, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher, counselor or principal. We are here to support all students.

Together, we remain hopeful for a more equitable future for all.

Sandy Saltzstein

School Board President

Dr. John W. Thomsen

Superintendent of Schools