



Secondary SAS Newsletter

June 5, 2020

#EBSchoolsStrong continues to provide our students with information about tolerance, acceptance, and respect.

Below, you can find additional resources that you may choose to utilize to support your conversations at home.

Points of Consideration

- **Violence and hate are never solutions to anger.** Perpetrators of violence—against fellow students or against our country—cause tremendous harm because they act violently against innocent people out of blind hate. We must not act like them by lashing out at innocent people around us, or “hating” them because of their origins, their appearance, or their mode of dress.
- **Groups of people should not be judged by the actions of a few.** It is wrong to condemn an entire group of people by association of religion, race, homeland, affiliations, or even proximity. No one likes to be blamed or threatened for the actions of others.
- **America is strong because of its diversity.** American democracy is founded on respect for individual differences. Those differences in culture, religion, ideas, ethnicity, and other forms of identity have contributed to the strength and richness of our country.
- **All people deserve to be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity.** Certainly, individuals proven to be guilty of a crime should be punished. No matter how angry we are over these terrible crimes, our Constitution ensures fair and equitable treatment under the law for all Americans.
- **Vengeance and justice are not necessarily the same.** Justice means punishing the real perpetrators, not innocent people. Hurting other children and neighbors will not make us safer, stop terrorists, or help punish 2 students who harm or harass classmates. It will only add to the hate and anger, increasing the risk of further violence.
- **We are in this together.** People of all ethnicities are hurt by terrorism and other acts of senseless violence. We need to support each other, comfort each other, and work together to help those most in need during difficult times.
- **History shows us hate only causes harm.** Some of our country’s darkest moments resulted from prejudice and hate for our own people because individuals acted out of fear. We must not repeat terrible mistakes such as our inappropriate, often violent treatment and ignorance of persons of minority groups.
- **We need to work for peace in our communities and around the world.** By reaching out to our classmates, friends, and neighbors from diverse backgrounds, we can help heal the wounds from tragic events and build stronger, more resilient communities.
- **Acceptance is a lifelong endeavor.** Although it is critical in the immediate aftermath of a crisis to protect classmates and neighbors from harassment, the issues of acceptance and inclusion go beyond crisis recovery. We must embrace these values for all time. This includes all races, religions, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, and those with special needs.

Here are some helpful websites (links in BLUE) and resources that can support you at home.

PARENT TALKING TIPS

[How to Talk to Children about Difficult News](#)

[Talking to Kids about George Floyd](#)

[Explaining the News to Our Kids](#)

<https://www.chooseorg.org/>



Have questions, Need support? We are here for you!

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Resources and guidance provided by the Middlesex County Traumatic Loss Coalition