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Dear Floyd County Families and Stakeholders,

The safety and well-being of all Floyd County Schools students and employees remain our top priority. I am deeply troubled by a racially insensitive post created by a FCS student on social media. We believe that there is no place in our schools, homes, community, or the world for hate and judgment of others based on their race, ethnicity, or national origin. Racist comments, videos, photos, and such will not be tolerated on any platform and do NOT reflect the culture and beliefs of FCS. Recent events in our country have continued to shed light on how very important it is for us to work together to become better.

We strive to celebrate the diversity of our schools every day by providing educational opportunities and holding conversations with our students about the appreciation of diversity and understanding concepts of racial injustice through Social Emotional Learning and classroom discussions. Our schools have implemented school counselor guidance sessions and programs such as Capturing Kids' Hearts, Leader in Me (LiM), Habitudes, and Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support (PBIS) that focus on diversity, positive peer relations, and decision making. However, we realize that we can do more to take a stand and unite together when we see injustice in our community and in our world that threatens the values of who we are and what we believe.

We encourage all FCS families to continue having courageous conversations about racism, privilege, and the roles we can each play in preventing more incidents like the ones we have recently experienced as a community. As a parent, I understand that it can be difficult for parents and families to know where to start when having conversations with your child about topics of racial injustice. Taking time to have these conversations with honesty and in an age-appropriate manner is an important step in helping us make progress with advancing respect, acceptance, and inclusion in our schools, families, and community. We would like to help in this process by providing [THIS](#) resource to help support these conversations with your children.

In his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated, "I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality."

I believe that together we can all continue to work toward making lasting positive changes in our schools, community, and country.

The Best is Yet to Come,

Jeff Wilson, Ed.D.
Superintendent