



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT AND GOVERNING BOARD

June 9, 2020

Dear MUSD Families and Staff,

As we react to the tragic death of George Floyd and past incidents of racial injustice, Maricopa Unified School District stands with the Black community in the fight against systemic racism. We acknowledge the deep hurt that is the result of centuries of inequity.

Two years ago, through the leadership of our Governing Board, MUSD formed a Strategic Planning Committee that elevated our diverse population as one of our greatest strengths. The District's promise of access and equity for Black, LatinX, and Indigenous students has compelled our entire staff to engage in honest dialog about how implicit biases, historical trauma, and racial inequities impact our communities of color. It was eye-opening. It was necessary.

We are committed to creating inclusive environments where our effectiveness is measured through the lens of equity; and more specifically, by the elimination of disproportionality among ethnic groups where academic achievement, participation rates (daily attendance, gifted, advanced placement, clubs and extracurricular activities), discipline data, and graduation are concerned.

Now, as a society, we are being called to act. As your Superintendent and Governing Board, you have our word: we will not tolerate racism or bigotry. We will listen. We will learn. We will act to be part of a long-term solution. Look for opportunities to join the conversation in the Fall of 2020.

Let's chart a course toward racial healing that makes Maricopa Unified School District the model for the nation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Tracey Lopeman, Superintendent
AnnaMarie Knorr, Governing Board President
Ben Owens, Governing Board Vice President
Torri Anderson, Governing Board Member
Patti Coutre, Governing Board Member
James Jordan, Governing Board Member

MARICOPA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT