

September 25, 2020

Sharon educators stand with our entire community, especially our students, families, and colleagues of color, in recognizing the pain many are feeling due to ongoing racism and recent incidents in our school district. We care deeply about our students and are committed to fostering an equitable and antiracist environment to ensure that everyone in SPS feels safe, affirmed, and valued.

Our students have courageously shared their stories and voiced concerns at faculty meetings and school-wide presentations. This summer, at the Black Students Matter rally, SPS graduates and current students laid bare the pain they have felt as Black students in Sharon Public Schools. Recently, parents and colleagues communicated the deep and profoundly hurtful impact of a statement made on Sharon Helps that othered our Boston-resident students and their families. We've struggled with knowing that this letter may appear reactionary or hollow; however, we hope that our actions moving forward will speak to our commitment to antiracism and equity.

SPS teachers and staff condemn any behaviors or language that uphold racism within our district and society at large. We recognize that we are not immune to making mistakes and causing harm. We will continuously work to address implicit bias and racist ideas within ourselves, our curriculum, and our school policies and practices. We will hold one another and our community members accountable when racism is intentionally or unintentionally perpetuated.

We commit to ongoing learning, listening, and action so that we, as an organization and as individual educators, may better serve our students.