



St. Louis Language Immersion School

22 April, 2021

Dear SLLIS Community,

This week, our community celebrates the swearing in of the first Black woman to serve as Mayor of St. Louis City, Tishaura Jones. We also breathe a sigh of relief and hope for the future as a guilty verdict has been reached in the Derek Chauvin trial. At SLLIS, we believe in justice and accountability, and both were upheld earlier this week at the conclusion of the trial.

Although we are relieved the justice system brought some peace to the family of George Floyd, we are more acutely aware than ever that there remains immensely important work to be done. We must work every day to disrupt systemic racism in all systems, from the criminal justice system to the very education system we depend upon to prepare our children to become leaders.

SLLIS will continue to work to dismantle systemic oppression due to race, sexual orientation and identity, gender and gender identity, economic status, immigration status, national origin, religion, ability, and other aspects of one's identity. We will continue to do purposeful, data-driven work to break down these barriers and help build a future where all individuals are safe and valued.

Thank you,
SLLIS Central Office Team

Dr. Meghan Hill Superintendent	Sharifa Blackwell Principal	Sherrell Hendrix Operations Director
Dr. Anthony Graham Talent Director	Mike Wheeler Assistant Principal	Jennifer Ting Enrollment + Assessment Manager
Kara Mank Executive Assistant	Hannah Stout Instructional Coach	Kate Brothers Director of Federal Programs

"And as we continue the fight, we can draw strength from the millions of people — especially young people — who have marched and protested and spoken up over the last year, shining a light on inequity and calling for change. Justice is closer today not simply because of this verdict, but because of their work."

-Barack Obama