

# Cape Schools Open Minds and Open Doors

Community • Academics • Passion • Ethics

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## CAPE ELIZABETH SCHOOLS

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The Cape Elizabeth School Department is saddened and in shock regarding the events that have taken place since the recent and tragic death of George Floyd. We live in a community that teaches respect to all, regardless of our differences.

At our Future Search last year, a rising theme was the wish to create a more diverse community in order that we might learn from each other, as we seek to make our town and our world a better place. One of the district goals that was developed as a result of our community conversation is

“Global Competency: Our students will be personally responsible, aware, empathetic, and engaged local and global citizens.”

As a district we are working to meet that goal. District-wide curriculum is being developed through our social studies content area in order to promote respect for all people, in order to counteract and put an end to the hatred that exists in our world. We fully acknowledge the necessity of ending the injustices and devastating circumstances that are occurring in the world today, in so many ways, and will continue to promote conversations, deplore those injustices, and work to teach our students the love and respect that all people deserve. Part of this work must focus on teaching patience with each other, not with tolerating the injustices, but rather by taking the time to listen to each other with open ears and hearts, and in always trying to see things from the perspectives of those with whom we are interacting, in always trying to look for the good in people.

We all need to teach our students, our children, our friends, and our families to love, rather than to hate, and to reach for understanding, rather than weapons or scathing words. No mother should have to worry about her son or daughter's safety. No mother should have to dry the tears of a child who has suffered hate or cruelty.

We must all continue to teach our children to recognize and value each and every life. As adults, the best way that we can do that is through our words and our actions. Our children are listening and watching.

Stay well, Donna