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June 10, 2020

Dear Members of Our Community,

Nelson Mandela shared, “No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”

We, as a community, are deeply saddened and angered by the tragic killing of George Floyd, the senseless deaths of many other Black individuals, and the turmoil our nation is experiencing as a result. Our community, our nation is hurting, and we seek answers and justice.

As public educators, we have the great privilege of working with our youth as they are forming their own values and views of the world around them. As we face this most challenging work, we strive for equity and for all students to discover and celebrate the rich cultural diversity of the larger community. We believe all students should learn and exercise civility and respect for one another. We believe that racism has no place in our schools and community. We strive to provide educational experiences that will develop our students as leaders, citizens, and scholars.

The Lexington City School Board and school division reject all forms of racism and are committed to working together with the community for equity through understanding, compassion, and opportunity. As we move forward, we must deliberately focus our efforts on helping our students thrive in a diverse world where each is valued, and all are treated with dignity and respect. We must work together to change what is wrong and hurtful, and, in turn, create a better world for our children’s tomorrow.

With great care,

Rebecca J. Walters, Superintendent

Timothy Diette, School Board Chair