



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 20, 2021

Superintendent's Message: Response to Chauvin Guilty Verdict in Floyd Case

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff and Community Members,

After a year of living through the George Floyd killing at the hands of police officer Derek Chauvin in Minneapolis, the jury has just announced guilty verdicts on all three counts of the trial.

This is a very emotional event that will reverberate around the country and world. The journey we have gone through with the killing, the world's reaction, and trial is something we will hold close to our hearts and minds for decades to come. I hope this creates awareness and much-needed resolve in addressing racism.

[Linked](#) is a message I sent out on July 23, 2020, detailing the district's commitment to anti-racism that includes information and resources parents and staff may use to engage in meaningful conversation around this complex and emotional issue. Our staff stands by to lead discussions and consult students who may have questions. We also have counseling available to support students and staff who may need the emotional support.

Please be safe and continue to look out for each other.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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