

May 3, 2020

Dear Audubon Community,

We would like to take a moment to reflect on the loss of George Floyd. Along with our community and nation, we are grieving. We are deeply disturbed by the circumstances that led to his death as well as countless others who unjustly lost their lives before him.

We stand with our Board of Education and Superintendent Dr. Rosas, in taking a stance against racism and violence. In Dr. Rosas's letter, she stated, "To all our African American students, families and staff: You matter, Black lives matter. This work matters. We stand united in the days ahead." Building on these words, we believe that Audubon must be a place where our students can learn together in a feeling of acceptance in our diversity. We believe that by working through our differences we can take a positive role in being changemakers.

Our staff actively works to provide an inclusive learning environment for all students. We are committed to continuing our dedication to internalizing our Four Pillars of Excellence: Respect, Responsibility, Safety and Engagement. Through the implementation of Soul Shoppe, Positive Behavior (PBIS), Restorative Practices and other social-emotional lessons, we aim to instill these qualities in ourselves and in our students.

Recognizing that our community is grappling with the events surrounding the death of George Floyd, complicated by our feelings of isolation while sheltering in place, we wish to share with you resources which may help you have conversations about these complex issues. These resources will be added to the [SMFCSD webpage](#) by tomorrow.

In solidarity,

Jaime Soria and Doug Garriss