

## **MILTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Leroy J. Walker, Chair Dr. Kevin Donahue, Vice Chair Kristan Bagley Jones, Member Sheila Varela, Member Dr. S. Elaine Craghead, Member Margaret Eberhardt, Member

December 28, 2016

Dear Staff, Parents and Guardians,

This past week, we had an incident at Pierce Middle School. Swastikas were found in several locations at the Middle School. Such behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in the Milton Public Schools. The students responsible were identified, an investigation was carried out and appropriate action was taken immediately with those students and with their parents. The Milton Police Department was contacted and we continue our cooperation with them. We have a no tolerance policy for any type of discriminatory or exclusionary behavior. This is reinforced with our staff and our students at every opportunity. Last week's event offers such an opportunity and will be taken advantage of over the next few weeks.

Fortunately, the Milton Public Schools is a district where diversity is embraced in all of its forms and our students willingly embrace this value day in and day out. While any behavior that violates our values is one occurrence too many and we all share a sense of disappointment each time we witness or hear about such, I hope that you will also join with us in celebrating, emboldening and encouraging the overwhelming majority of our students who make the Milton Public Schools a place where every student feels welcome and looks forward to coming to school every day.

Sincerely,

Leroy J. Walker

Chairman, Milton School Committee

The Milton Public School system does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, gender identity, transgender status, gender transitioning, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, pregnancy/parenting status, marital status, sexual orientation, homelessness, or military status, in any of its programs, activities or operations. These include, but are not limited to, admissions, equal access to programs and activities, hiring and firing of staff, provision of and access to programs and services, as well as selection of volunteers, vendors and employers recruiting at the Milton Public Schools. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, students, volunteers, subcontractors, and vendors. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Human Resources, 617-696-4812