

GLEN ROCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Glen Rock Community,

The Glen Rock School District is deeply saddened and shocked by the recent violent attacks towards Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders. We are committed to providing a welcoming and safe environment for all of our students. One of the district's goals for this year speaks specifically to this priority. The Glen Rock Board of Education 2020-2021 District Goal #1 states that Glen Rock Schools will, "Support district initiatives that enhance the safety, health and wellbeing of our staff and students." This year, the District has worked with the Community Relations Advisory Committee and has partnered 3rd Culture People to increase our Cultural Intelligence and build a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. This is important, ongoing work for our district and community.

Any hateful words or actions undermine this work. We encourage all of our community members to stand against racism and hate in ways that are peaceful, productive and consistent with our values of respect and inclusivity.

It is important for our students and our community to know that our district rejects hate and condemns violence. Equally important is a call to action for the individuals in our district to ensure that your children, our students, colleagues, friends, and family know that you adamantly oppose hateful speech and actions. This is our belief and is important to express at all times, especially in the wake of tragedy. Over the past year there has been an increase in violence and hate crimes against Asian Americans that has coincided with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the recent murders in Atlanta, Georgia of six Asian American women. Any violent crime is tragic and unacceptable. Those motivated by race or other distinguishing characteristics are reprehensible and must compel each of us to peaceful and productive action to make Glen Rock, New Jersey, the United States and world a better and safer place for all.

We are Glen Rock Schools!

Sincerely,

Brett Charleston, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools