

June 15, 2020

Dear Beaver County Students and Families,

The recent weeks have brought yet another reminder of the need for all Americans to reassess the state of the cultural and racial issues that exist in our country. As members of the school communities of Beaver County, we strongly support the efforts of those who fervently and peacefully advocate for fairness and equal treatment for all people. We endorse reforms that keep our communities safe while respecting the rights and constitutional freedoms of all of our fellow citizens.

As superintendents of the fourteen school districts, and Directors of the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit and the Career Technology Center, we denounce any act of violence in our community, especially when it is perpetrated based on the color of one's skin. We believe that the offense taken against George Floyd in Minneapolis was indefensible, horrible and inhumane. As many have said, there is no place in our society for it and no place in our collective sense of righteousness and compassion. We commit ourselves, individually and jointly, to those efforts that will eliminate racism, improve community relationships with the police, and protect our children.

As the instructional leaders of our districts, we welcome discussion and discourse in our schools and are proponents of creating opportunities for students to seek ways to become part of solutions to the problems we face as a society. We will continue to be strident advocates for diversity and inclusivity and opponents of discrimination in any form. We hope for a day when all our nation's children will be judged simply by "the content of the character and not be judged by the color of their skin."

Though Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s words were spoken more than a half-century ago, they remain true today.

Dr. Jane Bovalino, Superintendent

Rochester Area School District

Mr. Alan R. Fritz, Jr., Superintendent

South Side Area School District

Dr. Peter Carbone, Superintendent

Aliquippa School District

Dr. Jeffrey A. Fuller, Superintendent

Freedom Area School District

Dr. Joseph A. Guarino, Superintendent
New Brighton Area School District

Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent
Hopewell Area School District

Dr. Donna Nugent, Superintendent
Big Beaver Falls Area School District

Dr. Nicholas Perry, Superintendent
Central Valley School District

Dr. Joseph Pasquerilla, Superintendent
Ambridge Area School District

Dr. Robert H. Postupac, Superintendent
Blackhawk Area School District and
Western Beaver County School District

Dr. Eric Rosendale, Executive Director
Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit #27

Dr. Carrie Rowe, Superintendent
Beaver Area School District

Mr. Sean D. Tanner, Superintendent
Midland Borough School District

Mr. Bret Trotta, Superintendent
Riverside Beaver County School District

Mr. David A. Wytiaz, Administrative Director
Beaver County Career & Technology Center