

Shrewsbury Borough School

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

We would like to take a moment to acknowledge and support our community during this difficult time. Once again, we are experiencing pain and suffering caused by the harm done to African Americans and Black Americans. The impact of systemic racism has a daily hold on both the systems and the individual. We value and regularly ask the members of our school to show kindness, acceptance of differences and caring towards each other. In this spirit, we are reaching out to every member of our school community who is hurting to say, we see you and we are here for you. Please reach out if you need support. Our work is not done and we have faith that we will continue to grow as a community. As we have all followed the events of this past week, we are reminded of the divide that exists in our country and the important responsibility that we all have to help our children process the world around them. Your children may be asking you questions and you may already be addressing the events unfolding in Minnesota, New York City, Trenton, and throughout the country.

To those who are seeking guidance and wondering how to help, resources are listed below:

A reading list for adults:

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/29/books/review/antiracist-reading-list-ibram-x-kendi.html?fbclid=IwAR3KlRqMyLEbn11vgCEvKCAqjAORPVQ8qd8cTBb_-aVPiAureCl4OWuJ7eI

Resources for White people:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BRIF2_zhNe86SGgHa6-VIBO-QgirITwCTugSfKie5Fs/preview?pru=AAABcnZcUw0*Bu9f2-knWaXADeNfGV_3fQ&fbclid=IwAR3wcJvEurnTzE76-my-D0qe_NUP9cdPFDbhyz1A44fg2EEyjenm2XcvakI

Talking to your children about race:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/family/in-the-news/talking-about-race/>

<https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/social-awareness/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-race-and-racism>
<https://www.npr.org/2019/04/24/716700866/talking-race-with-young-children>

Reading for Children:

<https://ncte.org/blog/2020/05/build-stack-affirming-black-boys-outside-context-police-brutality/?fbclid=IwAR0AEY5vIEzBX8Jck3IuBifVdcxJM2KgBXtNbSHOD1JkNhgdqN4CA44cCGk>
<https://www.embracerace.org/resources/26-childrens-books-to-support-conversations-on-race-racism-resistance>

Very sincerely,

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Superintendent