

June 3, 2020

Dear ICSD community,

As we have been grappling with the violent displays of racial oppression over the past weeks, months, years, centuries, we are reminded of a quote by Ibram X. Kendi, the author of *How to Be an Antiracist*:

*“A racist is someone who is supporting a racist policy through their action or inaction. No one becomes a racist or antiracist. We can only strive to be one or the other. Antiracism requires self-persistent self-awareness, constant self-criticism and regular self-examination.”*

We are hopeful that the students and adults in the Ithaca City School District are on a journey to becoming anti-racist educators and people. To do so, it is imperative that we all reflect, learn, and act. We strongly encourage our community to explore the resources below as these resources provide support for engaging with one another this week.

We are asking our community to recommit to this work and/or challenge ourselves and one another in new ways today. Our children need us and we need one another.

Regards,

*Dr. Luvelle Brown*  
Superintendent

*Robert Ainslie*  
School Board President

*Dr. Sean Eversley Bradwell*  
School Board Vice President

*Adam Piasecki*  
ITA President

*Brad Pollack*  
IPDA President

*Carla Strong*  
ESP/I President

*Lisa Sahasrabudhe*  
Instructional Coach for Equity,  
Inclusion, and Innovation  
(on behalf of Equity Team)

*Mary Grover*  
Inclusion Officer

*Chris Horstman*  
ICSDEA President

*Lily Talcott*  
Deputy Superintendent

#### **Resources for Building Your Own Understanding**

- [\*\*The Trauma of Racism\*\*](#)
- [\*\*White Supremacy Culture and Characteristics\*\*](#)
- [\*\*For White Allies in Search of a Solution to American Racism / When Folks of Color Are Exhausted\*\*](#)

**Resources for Teaching Young People About Race, Racism and Anti-Racism**

- [ICSD Anti Marginalization Units of Study](#)
- [Addressing Race and Trauma in the Classroom](#)
- [Framing Brave Conversations about Race and Equity](#)
- [26 Mini-films for Exploring Race, Bias and Identity with Students](#)
- [31 Children's Books to Support Conversation on Race, Racism and Resistance](#)