



[*This letter is available in Spanish below.*](#)

Dear DCPS Students and Families,

DC Public Schools (DCPS) stands with our community in grieving the recent tragic deaths of George Floyd, a Black man in Minnesota, and Tony McDade, a Black Trans man in Florida. I share in the hurt, confusion, and anger about what is happening in the District and around the nation.



Our community will not tolerate any actions or policies that sanction or perpetuate racism and racial violence. Now more than ever, we must turn attention to our ray of hope, our children.

DCPS and the District will continue to support our young people by having courageous conversations with them around race to cultivate a brighter future. As a support to our families who are grappling with extremely difficult events and engaging in complex, challenging conversations, DCPS is providing access to anti-racism resources for you and your family. As our community navigates this moment together, I encourage you to take time to reflect, listen, and engage with one another.

Event: Talking about race with your child

As a part of our DCPS Parent University series, we are offering a free online workshop, "Talking about Race with Your Child" this **Wednesday, June 3 at 5:30 pm** [You can RSVP to attend here](#), and the event will be archived if you are unable to join in real-time.

Article: "What do we tell our children?"

In this [article from USA Today](#), child psychologists answer questions parents are asking after the recent deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor, and offer developmentally appropriate ways to talk to children of all ages about racism and police brutality.

Resource: Have a courageous conversation

We believe in creating brave spaces to have conversations about race with our families, friends, and colleagues. If you don't know where to start, please consider the following prompts from our Equity Strategy and Programming Team inspired by our work over the past two years with [Courageous Conversation™](#) to begin your discussion:

- **Believing:** What do you believe based on what's happened?
- **Thinking:** What questions do you have? What thoughts come up
- **Feeling:** How do you feel? What emotions are coming up for you
- **Doing:** What do you plan to do next? What action have you already taken?

These resources are just a few of what is available to families, and I hope you will join me at [Wednesday's Parent University](#) virtual session to learn more.

Our schools are a constant in our lives - places of learning, joy, and friendship. Our schools stand proud in our neighborhoods, welcoming all who walk through the doors to be their true selves and allow students to be extraordinary. Our schools are also a refuge, a place where students and families can find the support they need for their wellbeing.

Our presence, purpose, and commitment is a constant and does not change with the end of the academic year. It's with this conviction that DCPS teachers and staff lead each and every day.

In support and solidarity,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.
Chancellor
District of Columbia Public Schools

Dear DCPS students and families,

The DC Public Schools (DCPS) supports our community in lamenting the recent tragic deaths of George Floyd, a black man in Minnesota, and Tony McDade, a Trans black man in Florida. I share the pain, confusion, and anger about what is happening in the District and across the country.



Our community will not tolerate any action or policy that sanctions or perpetuates racism and racial violence. Now more than ever, we must pay attention to our ray of hope, our sons and daughters.

DCPS and the District will continue to support our youth through courageous conversations with them about race to cultivate a brighter future. In support of our families who are dealing with extremely difficult events and engaging in complex and challenging conversations, DCPS is providing access to anti-racism resources for you and your family. As our community navigates this moment together, I encourage you to take time to reflect, listen, and relate to one another.

Event: Talking about races with your son or daughter

As part of our DCPS Parent University series, we are offering a free online workshop, "Talking about race with your son / daughter" this **Wednesday, June 3 at 5:30 pm** [You can reserve your space here to attend](#) , and the event will be archived if you cannot participate in real time.

Article: "What do we say to our sons / daughters?"

In this [USA Today article](#) , child psychologists answer questions parents ask after the recent deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor, and offer developmentally appropriate ways of talking to children of all ages. on racism and police brutality.

Resource: Have a brave conversation

We believe in having bold spaces to have conversations about race with our families, friends and colleagues. If you don't know where to start, please consider the following directions from our Capital Scheduling and Strategy Team inspired by our work over the past two years with [Courageous Conversation™](#) to begin your discussion:

- **Believe:** What do you believe based on what happened
- **Think:** What questions do you have? What thoughts arise
- **Feel:** How do you feel? What emotions arise
- **Do:** What do you plan to do next? What action have you already taken?

Estos recursos son solo unos cuantos de lo que está disponible para las familias, y espero que participe conmigo en la sesión virtual de la [Universidad de padres del miércoles](#) para saber más.

Nuestras escuelas son una constante en nuestras vidas - lugares de aprendizaje, alegría y amistad. Nuestras escuelas se enorgullecen en nuestros vecindarios, dando la bienvenida a todos los que cruzan las puertas para ser ellos mismos y permitir que los estudiantes sean extraordinarios. Nuestras escuelas también son un refugio, un lugar donde los estudiantes y las familias pueden encontrar el apoyo que necesitan para su bienestar.

Nuestra presencia, propósito y compromiso es constante y no cambia con el final del año académico. Con esta convicción, que los maestros y el personal de las DCPS llevan la frente todos los días.

En apoyo y solidaridad,

Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee
Canciller
Las Escuelas Públicas del Distrito de Columbia

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