

C. D. Hylton Senior High School

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David J. Cassady, Jr., Principal

To Our Hylton Family,

As we come together as a community to continue processing events that are unfolding all across our country, we as a leadership team are having conversations with our students, their families, our faculty, and each other and there are a few things that we would like to affirm.

We are deeply saddened and outraged by recent examples of violence against African American people in our country and understand that while our hearts ache for the family and friends of George Floyd, we also acknowledge that he is one example of longstanding, ongoing and deeply rooted injustices and violence experienced by the African American community.

We want all our students and families, especially our students of color and their families, to know that we see you, we want to hear from you, we love you, and we support you. We cannot remain silent; It is our duty to all our students to serve as “champions of equity”.¹ During this time of pain and uncertainty, we encourage you to reach out to any member of our Administrative or Counseling team. We know many of you are not OK and we want you to know that, standing together, we are here for you.

We are proud to be one of the most diverse public high schools in the state of Virginia² with a culturally responsive faculty and while we work hard every day to celebrate that diversity, we recognize that we can always continue to work harder, learn more, and do better. As part of that commitment, we are working to develop sustainable avenues to give voice to student, family and faculty concerns and not only to foster open dialogue, but to actively evaluate systems and structures to ensure that we are helping build an equitable and just future for our students and our community.

Sincerely,

The Administrative Team at Hylton High School

¹ <https://blog.nassp.org/2020/06/03/an-open-letter-to-school-leaders/>

² <https://www.niche.com/k12/search/most-diverse-public-high-schools/s/virginia/>



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