

June 9, 2020

Dear PS 81 Families,

Thank you for the very positive feedback regarding the resources that I shared last week from the Chancellor. Many parents stated that they found the following resources very helpful in starting a dialogue with their child: Talking About Racism Early and Often, Black Lives Matter Still Matters, Coming Together, Standing Up to Racism.

We are living in very difficult times. It is unimaginable that we are living through a pandemic and now the horrific death of George Floyd.

As everyone is navigating their feelings, it is a time to reflect. In order for our school community and our country to heal, we must work together to educate our students. We all must be instruments of systemic change in order to stamp out racism. The center of this change will be education.

Our P.S. 81 community remains committed to support our mission and vision and ensures that we will continue to integrate our curriculum that provides culturally responsive instruction through Restorative Justice, Respect for All and Civics for All.

As shared by Chancellor Carranza in his last letter to families, we will continue to honor the dignity and humanity of every student, parent, educator, employee and member of our community every day. No matter the form teaching and learning takes—in brick-and-mortar classrooms or on a digital device—the goal remains the same: providing an excellent education to every single student. This work creates lifelong effects in children and has the potential to transform our society in ways that make that the world safer, more just, and better for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support during these unusual times. Please stay safe. Our P.S. 81 families are in our thoughts and prayers. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Anne Kirrane

Principal, P.S. 81