



Preparing every student to thrive in a global society.

April 21, 2021

Statement regarding the Verdict in the Derek Chauvin Trial

The jury serving on the Derek Chauvin trial for the death of George Floyd found Chauvin guilty of all charges. Hopefully, the family of George Floyd will find some measure of justice in this verdict. Thankfully, members of the jury saw what we all saw on the 9 minutes and 29 seconds of the video.

As a nation, we are certainly at an inflection point when it comes to policing in America. The way the police are militarized and interact with our citizenry, especially with persons of black ancestry, must change. Every individual that is stopped by police should be able to leave that situation alive.

The Senate must pass HR7120, The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. There is no time to waste to implement clear reforms and create national standards for policing, such as the standards we have for Teaching, practicing law, practicing medicine, just to name a few.

At East Side Union High School District, we stand in protecting the lives and rights of our students, families and community members. We stand for justice. We stand for the right for peaceful gathering. We stand for love.

To support our students, families and staff, the California Department of Education is providing the resources listed below to engage in healing conversations and positive change. We must continue to work together!

In support,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris D. Funk".

Chris D. Funk
Superintendent

Resources:

- **CALHOPE Line** – CalHOPE Connect offers safe, secure, and culturally sensitive emotional support for all California who may need support. [CalHOPE](#)
- **WellnessTogether.org** – Tools to support students in challenging times. [WellnessTogether](#)
- **Learning for Justice** – (Formerly Teaching Tolerance) – Free resources to educators to supplement the curriculum, to inform their practices, and to create inclusive school communities. [Learning for Justice](#)
- **Supporting Resilience in Schools** – Provides information and resources for educators, parents, and communities working with those who have experienced trauma. [CDE](#)

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