

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

224 US Route 2 Grand Isle, Vermont 05458

P.O. Box 54 Grand Isle, Vermont 05458

Phone: 802-372-6921 Fax: 802-372-4898 Web Site: www.gisu.org

3 June 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, & Community members,

We are living through unprecedented times in many ways. I've shared with you several times during this dismissal the most important thing you can do to support your children is to ensure they feel safe and know they are loved. The current climate throughout the country, triggered by the killing of George Floyd, is exposing complicated emotions and social tensions long-held throughout our nation. We know conversations about race may be difficult to have; however, in order to help our community and children move forward, it is essential these conversations take place. Below are several resources, in different formats, which you may find helpful in starting and sustaining these conversations.

[The American Psychological Association's: Resources for Parents, Uplifting Youth Through Healthy Communications about Race.](#)

[Teaching Tolerances's: Beyond the Golden Rule, A Parent's Guide to Preventing and Responding to Prejudice](#)

[National Public Radio's: Talking Race With Young Children](#)

A key component of the Grand Isle Supervisory Union's mission of ensuring all students are curious, creative, courageous, and capable of achieving their aspirations in a diverse and ever-changing world requires our community recognizes and addresses the inequities our students experience and ensure their educational experience both creates an awareness of equity issues and equips students with the ability to face, navigate, and affect change in their local and global communities. Together we must provide opportunities for our children to effect change. We will create and foster environments where every person feels welcomed, accepted, and valued.

Even in our current remote learning environment, we are committed to supporting families with this work. If we can help in any way please reach out to your school's counselor or principal, your child's teacher, or me any time. Thank you for your help with this important work.

We are all in this together.

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Community Google Hangout:

Every Wednesday evening during the Governor's Dismissal I've held an opportunity to talk with community members who have questions, concerns, or just want to talk via a Superintendent/Community Google Hangout. **This week's Hangout is Wednesday, June 3, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m will be the last Community Google Hangout I will hold for this year.** I'm thinking about the possibility of doing something with a Google Hangout next year. I'd like to thank everyone who has been attending these meetings and want to wish you a fantastic summer!

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/fpr-pdyq-pny

[Join by phone](#)

+1 414-909-5167 PIN: 183 082 898#

Sincerely,

Michael J. Clark

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Grand Isle Supervisory Union

Superintendent