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Norwood Public Schools

David Thomson,

Superintendent

275 Prospect Street
Norwood, MA 02062

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 19, 2021

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Statement of Norwood Public Schools Superintendent David Thomson Regarding Anti-Asian Sentiment and Violence

NORWOOD -- Superintendent David Thomson offers the following statement to the Norwood Schools community:

“We share in the sadness and grief that has resulted from the tragic act of violence that occurred in Atlanta, Georgia this week and news of a startling increase in anti-Asian violence and sentiment across the nation. We are deeply troubled by this disturbing trend, and recognize the feelings of outrage, pain and vulnerability that it may cause for students, staff and families, especially for those in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities.

“We must continue to stand against racism and bigotry and make it known that hateful

sentiments have no place in our schools. We must also continue to ensure our schools are respectful and accepting environments that recognize the great value of our differences.

“Through initiatives like the Global Citizenship Program and the Anti-Defamation League A World of Difference Institute Peer Training program, we aim to provide support and opportunities for our students to create and sustain positive social change in their school. We also hope to equip them with the knowledge and perspective to address social challenges and injustices head-on after leaving our district.

“As educators, we remain committed to cultural proficiency and inclusivity, supported through our partnership with the Highlander Institute and the Anti-Defamation League, our upcoming training with the Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth (MPY) and our ongoing efforts to implement culturally responsive teaching practices into our classrooms.

“We are committed to ensuring every student and staff member feels safe, valued and respected. As always, should staff, students or families have questions or concerns, they are encouraged to reach out to their respective schools’ administration.”

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A message from the Norwood Public Schools

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