

Dear CHSLSJ Community,

In the midst of a global pandemic, Black people in our country cannot rest against police brutality and injustice. The injustice against Black lives is not new. As a community, The Charter High School for Law and Social Justice stands firmly together against the injustice and brutality toward Black lives and people of color. We stand against racism in America. **Black lives matter. Our students matter. Our Black staff members matter. Our staff of color matters.**

Our school was established to help develop the next generation of young people that will not relent to injustice. **Our students will be committed to law and social justice. Our school holds these values in the highest regard.**

We have decided to pause our remote learning schedule to help give our staff and students the time to process and feel their emotions. The recent lootings and widespread police presence in our school's neighborhood is a trigger we can not ignore. We know this is just a small step towards the road to healing for our community, and we want to assure you it is the first step of many we will take. **We are a school community that is interdependent and supportive of each other. We carry this value to create a greater community that will be a driving force in the creation of a better world.**

In the short term, our staff will facilitate sessions for our students to express their thoughts and emotions. We will do this without censorship and judgment. We want our students to feel supported by us. We will not impose our beliefs on our students. We will listen. Before we can support our students, we need to support each other. With the help of some of our teachers, we've compiled a list of resources, resources for educators to fight racial inequality. We encourage you to use these resources for your self-care, to educate yourself with the **facts**, and to learn how we can support each other and our students.

In the long term, CHSLSJ leadership is committed to seeking organizations that will help us dismantle the systems of injustices that our staff and students are up against... to help us build equity and address social injustice in our community. We look forward to collaborating with our staff in search of these organizations.

We don't have all the answers. Yet, in our vision, CHSLSJ commits to Excellence, Empowerment, Inclusion, Acceptance, and Responsibility, continuously engaging and inspiring our students. **We follow our vision without wavering. We encourage all members of our school community to reflect on the work that they do and how it aligns with our vision and mission in order to best support the fight against systemic racism. Each member of our community must be fully committed to this mission and our vision if they plan to remain. We need allies in the fight against racial injustice.** *We will not censor our support of Black lives and people of color. We are committed.*

In solidarity,

The CHSLSJ Leadership team