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## To our Falcon Family:

As I reflect on the school year and the state of our society, I have struggled in recent days to find the appropriate words to share with our community. For our district and community, this has been a difficult year. We have suffered in numerous ways, both personally and socially, that will ultimately never allow us to return to "normal". However, I assure you that not only is it ok to never return to what we knew as "normal", but it is imperative we never allow ourselves to return to that place.

As we shared with our Senior class this year, we are taking a Master's degree course in the class of life, and how we handle this moment will define us. We are living history, and it is our time to become the Greatest Generation.

From an unprecedented pandemic to the horrific death of George Floyd, we have been forced to look into the mirror and hold ourselves accountable for our actions, and how those actions impact the lives of others. Ultimately, we must ask ourselves, "Who are we and what do we stand for?"

As the Superintendent of Fairfield Union, I took an oath to protect our students, our district and our community. It is my duty and responsibility to take a stand and vocalize my support for all students and all families at Fairfield Union. We take great pride in our Falcon Family, and part of our Falcon Family needs us now more than ever. We should all take pride in calling out racism where it exists and do everything in our power to promote equality in our country.

While I believe, we all support the peaceful protests occurring in our country, the real work lies ahead when the protesting stops. Our actions in the days ahead will be the ultimate judge of our sincerity in creating true and meaningful change in our society. It is simply unacceptable for any member of our society to be denied the truest forms of freedom based on race, ethnicity or personal beliefs. I vow to lead the charge to listen, learn and act on behalf of any student or family that has historically been suppressed by society.

All great things began with one small step in the right direction. I implore everyone in our Falcon Family to take that one small step. Be willing to listen with an open mind and love with an open heart. At the end of the day, these will be the keys to creating meaningful and lasting change. If we have learned nothing else in our history, love wins, love always wins.

Peace and love to all,

Chad Belville Superintendent

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