

0:00:01.100,0:00:06.960

[Music]

0:00:04.490,0:00:09.300

Hello Islander students and families

0:00:06.960,0:00:12.719

during this recent killing of George

0:00:09.300,0:00:14.969

Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmad Avery and

0:00:12.719,0:00:16.800

other African Americans along with the

0:00:14.969,0:00:19.189

following events of this past weekend

0:00:16.800,0:00:22.650

left many of us feeling deeply hurt

0:00:19.189,0:00:24.660

frustrated and very angry. Acknowledging

0:00:22.650,0:00:26.670

generations of social inequities and

0:00:24.660,0:00:29.010

trauma inflicted upon people of color

0:00:26.670,0:00:31.560

and other marginalized people is an

0:00:29.010,0:00:34.590

essential step toward healing and to

0:00:31.560,0:00:37.290

actively work to eliminate systemic

0:00:34.590,0:00:39.059

racism. We as your school leaders are

0:00:37.290,0:00:41.550

leaning into the critical role that

0:00:39.059,0:00:44.040

schools play in this process. We will

0:00:41.550,0:00:45.960

continue to work to ensure that all

0:00:44.040,0:00:48.750

students feel emotionally and physically

0:00:45.960,0:00:51.570

safe at school and have the opportunity

0:00:48.750,0:00:54.780

to be heard and to flourish

0:00:51.570,0:00:56.460

without harm. Every life has great value

0:00:54.780,0:00:59.670

regardless of the color of your skin,

0:00:56.460,0:01:02.399

your religion, your ethnicity or your

0:00:59.670,0:01:04.409

gender identification. The citizens of

0:01:02.399,0:01:07.439

this country have planned peaceful

0:01:04.409,0:01:09.810

protests but some of these protests have

0:01:07.439,0:01:11.880

been hijacked by other groups who have

0:01:09.810,0:01:15.000

other motives and have turned into

0:01:11.880,0:01:17.340

violent experiences. Let's not let that

0:01:15.000,0:01:19.530

overshadow the reason why these protests

0:01:17.340,0:01:22.020

are happening around our country and in

0:01:19.530,0:01:24.060

our state right now. We should take time

0:01:22.020,0:01:25.979

to self reflect and to use this

0:01:24.060,0:01:29.579

opportunity to look for ways to bring

0:01:25.979,0:01:32.280

unity and peace into our daily lives. If

0:01:29.579,0:01:34.920

you are silent when you see injustice or

0:01:32.280,0:01:36.299
mistreatment of others it could be

0:01:34.920,0:01:39.299
interpreted as being in agreement

0:01:36.299,0:01:42.360
with what is happening. Archbishop

0:01:39.299,0:01:44.299
Desmond Tutu of South Africa said, "if you

0:01:42.360,0:01:46.829
are neutral in situations of injustice

0:01:44.299,0:01:50.520
you have chosen the side of the

0:01:46.829,0:01:52.530
oppressor." I urge you to one take time to

0:01:50.520,0:01:54.509
talk with one another appreciating the

0:01:52.530,0:01:57.390
differences and gifts of diversity we

0:01:54.509,0:02:00.149
all bring to the world and two most

0:01:57.390,0:02:02.520
importantly don't be a bystander when

0:02:00.149,0:02:05.670
you see injustice no matter who is being

0:02:02.520,0:02:08.310
harmed. In closing our superintendent

0:02:05.670,0:02:10.379
Donna Colosky said, "every child and

0:02:08.310,0:02:13.680
adult in our communities should be safe,

0:02:10.379,0:02:15.120
seen, valued and dignified."

0:02:13.680,0:02:17.370
thank you for taking the time to view

0:02:15.120,0:02:17.819
this important message and goodbye for

0:02:17.370,0:02:20.069

now.

0:02:17.819,0:02:22.300

I will see you again on my video this

0:02:20.069,0:02:25.360

Friday.

0:02:22.300,0:02:25.360

[Music]