

St. Joseph



High School

June 3, 2020

To all members of our St. Joseph High School family:

The past few days have been personally painful, watching as pent-up anger caught fire across our country. It was painful to watch the rioting take place in our neighborhoods, but I was not surprised. When I learned that in Minneapolis the life of a black man was taken because of a counterfeit twenty-dollar bill, I too was outraged! For far too many years this disregard for human life has been allowed to continue.

This must stop! All of us, especially our St. Joseph High School family, must take action and not just sit back and bemoan the actions of others. Cardinal Blasé Cupich, in his statement regarding the murder of George Floyd, put it this way:

I will not pretend to speak with any authority about the challenges people of color experience in our society. I do not share the fear they put on when they and their children leave their homes every day. I do not know what it means to be "other." But I know there is a way to fix it. And the fix begins when we stop talking about the proportionality of "their" response and start talking about the proportionality of "ours."

St. Joseph High School, a school in the Lasallian tradition, stands ready to join with other Lasallian schools, and all schools who share these same values, in a new effort to bring about recovery and reconciliation in our community. This new effort needs to start now. Once St. Joe's reopens, we will begin a process of examining our curriculum and school policies and procedures, to ensure that recovery and reconciliation can and will take place in our school community.

We are here for you, students, parents, faculty, alumni, and friends, in attempting to begin the healing process. In light of our Catholic and Lasallian traditions, we "together and by association," are committed to taking up the hard work of change.

If St. Joseph High School can be of assistance to you in any way as we all move through the present situation, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for you.

Sincerely,

David L. Hotek, AFSC
Principal

A Lasallian School Sponsored by the Christian Brothers

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