June 3, 2020

Dear Little Rock School Family:

We are in very challenging times. The death of George Floyd is a senseless tragedy and highlights the racial injustice that still exists in our nation.

Today, the Little Rock School District received notification of a troubling social media post for which two students were responsible. The post did not threaten violent behavior, but was extremely offensive and does not align with the values of LRSD. The parents of these students have been contacted and committed to their students issuing a public apology.

The social media post underscores the importance of the message we shared with the Little Rock School District community yesterday regarding the need for LRSD staff to undergo extensive training to not only support our young people, but also to examine and share our own beliefs as a school community. This training will be an extension of the current cultural awareness efforts underway by LRSD and the ongoing social and emotional support we will provide students in the upcoming school year.

We ask that all parents would use this moment to discuss with their children the importance of making good decisions, and becoming thoughtful, caring, and productive citizens. It is also a good time to talk with your children about the responsible use of their social media, as well as the consequences of inappropriately using these platforms.

We look forward to returning to school so we may better assist our students as they deal with these challenging times. We know our families are counting on us and we are committed to doing everything we can to support them.

Sincerely,

Mike Poore
Superintendent of Schools