



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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*Claudia L. Bach, Ed.D
Interim Superintendent*

March 22, 2021

Dear APS Community,

The Town of Andover and its public schools aim to be an inclusive space for Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students, staff, and community members.

The eight murders in Atlanta, Georgia, six of which were perpetrated against Asian-American women, have deeply shaken our community members, and we stand with them in unwavering solidarity.

We acknowledge the AAPI community has experienced heightened xenophobic and racist comments and violence throughout the pandemic. We are heartbroken and saddened.

At the local level, the Town of Andover and the Public Schools have increased their diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. On the municipal side, the Town continues its [Andover DIVERSE](#) initiative while the school district implements its recently adopted [Equity Policy](#). We stand as imperfect practitioners of this work, determined to learn and grow each day.

Therefore, we encourage all community members to commit to creating a welcoming and safe climate for our AAPI friends, neighbors, and colleagues by showing support in some visible way during this painful time (e.g. patronizing the businesses of AAPI owners), learning about the AAPI community (e.g. contacting the Memorial Hall Library or school library for reading recommendations about the AAPI experience), or acting to make a change by attending an event organized by a local organization that focuses on racial justice.

Sincerely,

Claudia Bach, Ed.D.,
Interim Superintendent of Schools