



**Anthony T. T. Jaccaci**  
Head of School

Dear CCDS Community:

In my position as head of school, I often write to you about important issues, and I do so today also as a father, friend, and an individual with a heavy heart.

The tragic and unjust death of George Floyd in Minnesota has sparked outrage and pain throughout the country, in our city, and within our own Country Day community as many of our students and their families bear witness to the events unfolding before us.

It is our mission as a school to send graduates into the world "prepared for college and life." Full preparation means leading lives of purpose and confronting issues of injustice, intolerance, and racism when encountered. To do so, we teach our students to act in accordance with the school's principles of compassion, courage, integrity, responsibility, and respect and to recognize the inherent dignity of all people.

Country Day has a long history of change from its founding that has helped the school grow into a richly diverse community representing a multiplicity of races, faiths, backgrounds, and experiences. In our history, when we have confronted challenge together, we have become stronger.

While words, at times like these, may seem insufficient, I do write to you to affirm our commitment to the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). The board's EDI subcommittee has led the trustees in adopting principles of EDI in its guidance of the school. This year, Director of EDI Angela Barber-Joiner has led groups of faculty/staff, students, and parents in Courageous Conversations that aim to engender empathy and embolden action, and this work will continue. We must address these areas as difficult and uncomfortable as they may be to confront.

I wish for a community where all feel welcomed and equal regardless of background. One of our guiding principles, compassion, is particularly pertinent to this moment. The ability to share someone else's suffering can help us stand with black members of the CCDS community, who may be feeling this hurt most acutely, and with our entire Country Day family during this particularly painful time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony T. T. Jaccaci".

Anthony T. T. Jaccaci  
Head of School