



Karen Homiek
Superintendent
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Dear Ocean County Vocational Technical School Community,

I wanted to take a moment as we transition to summer break to address the issue of racism as it unfolds across our country in such a profound manner. The unnecessary and tragic death of George Floyd has brought to light the depths of racism that are still alive in our society.

As a public-school district, Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) is dedicated to serving and supporting our students. We are proud of our district and we want each of our students, instructors, and support staff to know that they are welcome, supported, and safe in our schools. Even though classes are not in session and we are about to be on summer break, we want our students to know that we are thinking of them and we are here to support them in these volatile and potentially scary times.

Please know that OCVTS does not, and will not, tolerate acts of racism. We will continue to review our operations, policies and practices to ensure that OCVTS maintains the highest standards related to equity and access to, and within, our school district. OCVTS' Affirmative Action Officer (AAO) is actively engaged in issues related to the district's Affirmative Action Plan and our Comprehensive Equity Plan in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:7.

The type of change that is needed to address racism at all levels begins with education. As an educational system, we are committed to providing this education to not only our students, but to our staff members as well. Our schools are all built on the foundation of strong relationships. Part of these relationships is ensuring that students not only feel safe, but are also heard and respected. This has always been a priority at OCVTS and will be reinforced this September when students return to class. We are committed to doing our part at OCVTS to make not only our school district, but also our community a better place.

Sincerely,

Karen Homiek
Superintendent