

September 2, 2020

Dear TCSD Community,

I am writing on behalf of the entire Board of Education. First and foremost, thank you for your vigorous engagement in discussions to lead the district toward a true commitment of equity, inclusion and antiracist practices. We understand now that we need to hear all voices before making decisions that affect the entire community. In retrospect, we recognize we acted out of protocol and that we can improve this process. Please understand that we are a volunteer board and do this job with the best intentions for our school district. At our most recent BOE meeting, we engaged in a robust conversation about working toward anti-racism in our schools through Board Goal #4 (TCSD will provide educational opportunities and experiences which are inclusive and representative of a diverse global community). Some members of our public equivocated the school should remain neutral in terms of signage, in hindsight, we now recognize that the sign is symbolic of the district work currently taking place, and identify the friction it may cause as a first step.

We have received much feedback from our community and again, we want to say Thank You, We Hear You, and appreciate the support and insight lending to our district's improvements. We have decided to place the Black Lives Matter sign in the schoolyard again, at least until our next board meeting, when we have the opportunity to further discuss this matter publicly. Our school district is serious on its plan to make progress district-wide in this vital work. We will also soon be reviewing the school district vision and its goals, in particular Goal #4 to better reflect the inclusive and diverse community we strive to be

Kind regards,
Scott Sherwood
TCSD BOE President