



NEWS

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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For Immediate Release

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District Prepares to Support Students, Faculty, and Staff as School Begins Monday Following Tragic Weekend in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, October 28, 2018 – Following this evening’s vigil, Superintendent Anthony Hamlet sent the message below home to District families and staff regarding supports that will be available for students and staff impacted by Saturday’s tragedy.

Good evening Pittsburgh Public Schools Families and Staff,

This is Superintendent Hamlet. It is with a heavy heart that I call you this evening. The third of three acts of hate that took place in the U.S. this week occurred right here in Pittsburgh. As a school community, as a Pittsburgh community, our hearts are broken as we try to understand this terrible, painful tragedy that occurred in Squirrel Hill.

Please know that to support our students and staff, in the schools most affected by this tragedy, we will have both student and employee assistance available. On behalf of PPS, I would like to thank the Law Enforcement and First Responders who risked their lives to save others yesterday. As always, our School Police will work closely with City of Pittsburgh Police to ensure an appropriate presence throughout the District. We have made resources available to school staff to assist with conversations as they arise with our students. For a list of resources, please visit our website at www.pghschools.org.

This is a sad time in our community. As we all mourn this tremendous loss of life of family members, friends, neighbors and coworkers – our thoughts and prayers go out to all those impacted by this tragedy, and we stand in solidarity with the members of our Jewish community. As Pittsburghers, we are a family. As Pittsburgh Public Schools, we are a family. We must stick together as a family and stand against any form of hate and intolerance.

All District schools will begin tomorrow with a moment of silence and reflection. The following schools with a bus stop at Shady and Wilkins Avenues will be rerouted to stop at Shady and Northumberland: Carlow Campus School, The Ellis School, Winchester Thurston, Pittsburgh Colfax K-8, Faulk Laboratory School, and Shadyside Academy. The City League Football Championship game between the Pittsburgh Allderdice Dragons and Pittsburgh Westinghouse Bulldogs has been rescheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2018, at 7:00 PM at Cupples Stadium. Both teams will start the game with a moment of silence honoring this weekend’s victims and all victims of violence.

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