Hate-Bias / Antisemitic Community Letter

Subject Line: Principal Message: Serious Incident Letter at [SCHOOL NAME]

Dear [SCHOOL NAME] Community,

I am writing because it is necessary to follow up with you concerning an abhorrent act of antisemitism that occurred at school on [DATE, TIME LOCATION]. One of our young students made the unfortunate choice to [DESCRIBE THE INCIDENT] This is unacceptable and must not be tolerated because this is a verbal and physical threat of harm to another person.

Following our investigation, appropriate discipline was assigned that is in alignment with the MCPS Student Code of Conduct. For our entire school community, we are developing an action plan to address this type of behavior, including class lessons on Tolerance led by our school counselor and classroom teachers.

I encourage parents to talk with their children about respecting and showing acceptance to all people and demonstrating understanding of our differences. Please help them understand the impact that intolerable symbols, words, and actions have. The following links offer parents tools and strategies to talk with children about antisemitism:

- 5 Tips for Talking with Children About Anti-Semitism | JSSA
- Anti-Defamation League (ADL)
- Teaching Materials on Antisemitism and Racism
- Resources to Address and Challenge Antisemitism | ADL
- Antisemitism Today
- Policies and Regulations: Detail Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD

If your child is impacted by this unacceptable behavior, our counselors, administrators, and mental health professionals are available to support them. Our students expect and deserve a safe school environment in which to learn and develop. We remain steadfast in our commitment to foster an anti-biased school culture and eliminate hate in all its forms. We appreciate your support as we confront incidents like these and work toward creating a community that preserves the dignity of all people.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please call the main office at 240-740-3545