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## North Santiam School District

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*“Hello parents, students, members of the North Santiam School District community. I'm coming to you today with a particularly important announcement. I know that everyone in the District right now is looking forward to hearing what our schools will look like in the fall. What will that plan be? We're working on that right now. We hope to put out a conceptual statement...how often kids will be at school and those sort of things next week and we'll have you look for that at that time. Today I'm sharing with you a statement that has been crafted by our North School District Board of Directors. We are working to address issues that occur within our District. I know that most people are aware of the issues in our society around race, equality, equity and student outcomes and we have crafted a statement and I'm going to read it for you now.”*

We are witnessing a massive public response to the impacts of systemic racism and social injustice affecting people of color in the United States and throughout the world. We are keenly aware that the quality of life, taken for granted by many throughout our society, is not experienced in the same way for many of our fellow citizens.

Our schools must be safe, welcoming, fair, and supportive to every child, every day. **We are committed and stand together** to eliminate racism, hate, or **any** kind of social discrimination in our schools and throughout our communities.

The NSSD acknowledges that there are deficits in our school system practices which must be addressed and changed. We will take inventory of current practices which negatively and unfairly discriminate based on race. We will create and prioritize action steps to improve our educational systems which result in Justice For All.

Our District's mission is to “Do What's Best for **ALL** Kids”. We must honor diverse backgrounds in order to address and meet the needs of all of our students. We will keep this in the center of our work with a relentless eye to find unintended inequities.

*“The statement that I just read was prepared by all the board members who signed off on it and I just want to say that we deeply feel that in the District, our teachers and our classified (staff) are able to work daily with students of all backgrounds and find an inherent human value in all of them. We know that all families who bring their kids to the District, want what ALL of us want...the best outcomes that can be hoped for for their children and we will work with them to make this happen as we go forward. Thank you.”*

North Santiam Schools ~ We Change Kids' Lives!  
[www.nstantiam.k12.or.us](http://www.nstantiam.k12.or.us)

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