December 18, 2019

San Dieguito School Community,

It is with great sadness and concern that I share the San Dieguito Academy school community experienced some destructive acts of vandalism over the course of the last few weeks. Foul and homophobic language, and disturbing anti-Semitic imagery, have been drawn and taped to restroom walls. These images have also been shared by some through text and social media. SDA is a warm and welcoming school and has a vibrant culture of tolerance for all students and staff. The individual, or individuals, committing these acts are not reflective of that culture and what they are doing is hateful and destructive. They have caused pain and disappointment in our community. I want everyone who has been negatively impacted to know you have my deepest empathy. I am thankful for the proactive leadership of the Principal, Adam Camacho, and his team for communicating with staff, students and families, and ensuring the students know they are supported and safe.

As the Superintendent of San Dieguito Union High School District, I work with faculty, staff, students, families, and community to maintain the highest standards of respect for everyone. As an organization dedicated to representing and supporting all students, we do not condone racist speech or actions at our schools, and we unreservedly condemn hateful rhetoric that targets any person or group. We denounce all acts of anti-Semitism and hate in any form. Since 2015, all San Dieguito Union High School District schools have participated in the Anti-Defamation League’s, “No Place for Hate” program.

These individuals do not represent our school community and caring is more powerful than hate. We must be lights of positivity in the darkness and stand with, and more importantly, stand up for any target of injustice and discrimination. We will stand together as a force and voice of goodness so that our schools may continue to be places that are welcoming, safe, respectful, tolerant and filled with happiness. We are using this opportunity to take specific action within our school community to ensure that our words and actions meet our high standards and that every single person on our campus, as a student, family member or guest, feels safe and welcome.

Providing a safe learning environment for our students, and our staff, is our highest priority. San Dieguito Academy has increased security amid an investigation into these acts. We are working with law enforcement to investigate and apprehend the individual, or individuals, responsible for the destructive and hateful acts. If you observe any activity or have information you would like to share, please use the anonymous “We Tip” line to report (800)78-CRIME (800-782-7463) or by going to the WeTip website to file an online report. Tips may earn up to a $1,000 reward.

“See Something, Hear Something, Sense Something, Say Something”

Robert Haley
Superintendent
Committed to the Future