



Monroe County Public School Athletic Conference, Inc. *www.mcpsac.org*

The Monroe County Public School Athletic Conference, Inc. Athletic Administrators* join the Monroe County Superintendents of Schools in "Standing Against Racism". There is no place in sport for racism, hatred or bias. The Superintendents' campaign to stamp out this plague on our humanity runs in perfect accord with our MCPSAC league's initiative to support "Respectful Speech and Behaviors in, at and around Interscholastic Athletic Contests" as noted below:

Taking a Position in support of Respectful Speech and Behaviors in, at and around Interscholastic Athletic Contests

- On behalf of its member schools, the Monroe County Public School Athletic Conference, Inc.* is committed to the promotion of high-spirited competition, fair play, and good sportsmanship at all interscholastic events and to the healthy communities that these qualities promote. Coaches, student athletes, school staffs, and spectators are expected to pursue these goals in positive ways, with unqualified respect for the dignity and humanity of all people. While encouraging high-spirited engagement at athletic events, the Conference and its member schools stand firmly against any speech or behaviors that convey insult, intolerance, or disrespect. Slurs, taunting, ridicule, discrimination, abuse, and other such behaviors hurt individuals, poison the atmosphere of the athletic arena, and bring shame on us all.
- Accordingly, the Monroe County Public School Athletic Conference, Inc. is developing a number of initiatives designed to promote a culture of respect for all people at all athletic events. Through educational programs, media, and the leadership of school administrators and coaches, the initiatives will establish and actively disseminate standards for behavior and speech at interscholastic athletic events. The programs will strengthen the understanding of all coaches, players, and spectators of what is and what is not acceptable, and will establish consequences for occasions where reasonable expectations are not met. When fully implemented, these programs will assure that incidents of abuse or disrespect do not tarnish healthy sporting events in our schools and will support essential educational elements of interscholastic athletics: the development of character, integrity, and respect for all.

"Be loud, be proud, be positive"

(Section V sportsmanship motto)

*** Members of the Monroe County Public School Athletic Conference, Inc.**

Dennis Fries – Executive Director; Jack Milner - President:

Schools/Athletic Administrators: Batavia (Mike Bromley), Brighton (Nate Merritt), Brockport (Todd Hagreen), Canandaigua (Jim Simmons), Churchville-Chili (Mike Murray), East Irondequoit (Bob Crocetti), Fairport (Fritz Kilian), Gates Chili (Patrick Irving), Gr. Arcadia (Sue Penepent), Gr. Athena (Josh Lacy), Gr. Odyssey (Kim Henshaw), Gr. Olympia (Ferdi Auriuso), Hilton (Mike Giruzzi), Honeoye Falls-Lima (Brian Donohue), Penfield (Pete Shambo), Pittsford Mendon * Sutherland (Scott Barker), Rush Henrietta (Tom Stewart), Spencerport (Jennifer Placito), Victor (Duey Weimer), Webster Schroeder (Shawn Strege), Webster Thomas (Steve Lamonica) and West Irondequoit (Kim Schon)

A Message from Monroe County Superintendents: Stand against Racism

Posted on June 9, 2020

The following “Stand Against Racism” is a collaborative message from *The Superintendents of the Monroe County Council of School Superintendents*:

We, the superintendents of Monroe County school districts, stand together against racism.

We acknowledge that discrimination exists in all of our communities. We see it in the bias that exists within our districts. We see it in the trauma that hatred and oppression inflict on our students and families. We see it in the educational inequities that continue to perpetuate glaring disparities in student outcomes.

We know that the fight against racism, oppression and hate cannot fall solely on families of color or within the confines of only some school districts. We all must lead this transformation together. That’s why today, we are publically committing to leading the change that will create lasting equity in our schools. We will listen, and learn from those who have experienced these tragedies and who live with the fear and pain of racism every day. We take responsibility for educating ourselves and will be intentional in rebuilding our education system which has not served underrepresented student populations well.

All Monroe County school superintendents pledge to:

- Assess policies and practices in order to ensure equality in hiring practices, provide access to high quality instruction, and decrease disproportionality in student achievement and discipline
- Accelerate professional development in areas including culturally responsive education and restorative practices
- Participate in the Regional Equity Network to promote equity in schools across the county
- Partner with BOCES and the University of Rochester Center for Urban Education Success to develop common units of study to be included in the curriculum across all of our schools that will focus on how race, class and inequities have shaped Monroe County from 1964 to today
- Listen and respond to the voices of our students and families of color, respect and value their experiences and perspective
- Engage our students in student-led change initiatives (i.e., ROC2Change)

We stand united in our support of equity and inclusion and we claim schools as a place of love and acceptance for all. Our school communities have the power to turn pain and prejudice into healing and understanding. Let this moment in history be defined as a tipping point – a moment to truly come together.

Our children deserve better and we will do better.

In solidarity,

The Superintendents of the Monroe County Council of School Superintendents