



JFK Weekly Newsletter

Friday, November 17, 2023 Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

Response to Recent Violence

Some classes have begun discussing the shooting of two Palestinian-American college students and one Palestinian college student in Burlington this past weekend. Our superintendent, Wilmer Chavaria, sent an email Monday morning to all staff acknowledging our commitment to being an anti-racism school district. In his communication, Wilmer invited each of us to open space and have age appropriate conversations with students around the local violence that is believed by many to be based in hate.

This [RJ circle script](#) was offered as a resource for WSD adults to use to open up space and conversation with students. If students were already asking questions or ideas were surfacing with students, WSD adults were highly encouraged to use this [circle script](#) as a way to start the conversation and solicit student input.

At JFK, each class participates in an RJ circle every Friday. Our teachers know their individual students and classes the best. In respecting that knowledge, WSD adults were asked that they, as the expert on their students, choose if and how to talk to students about these ideas. This [RJ Circle Script](#) is one way to do this.

We are hoping to surface students' voices and suggestions on how to support each other and the community. In the [Circle Script](#), Round 5 asks **"How can we as a community show violence is not welcome here?"**. If WSD adults chose to have discussions with students in a way other than using the [RJ Circle Script](#), they were asked to make sure to include this question. All adults that led discussions with students were asked to complete [this form](#) to capture students' voices so we can follow their lead in designing next steps. If your family is having discussions about these topics and you have ideas on how we, as a community, can show that violence is not welcome here, please complete [this form](#) to capture your family's voices.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out.

Calendar

Friday, December 1, 2023

Veggie Van Go

Thursday, December 14, 2023

12:15 p.m. Early Release for all students

Friday, December 15, 2023

Veggie Van Go

Friday, December 22 - Monday, January 1, 2024

No School



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Sara Raabe