



Broward County Public Schools  
Celebrating 100 Years  
of Educational Excellence

[browardschools.com/bcps100](http://browardschools.com/bcps100)

June 14, 2016

Dear Broward County Public Schools Community,

This weekend's horrific act of violence in Orlando left me, like most of you, shaken to the core. As a result, I re-affirmed my commitment to drive out hate and bigotry through education, social consciousness, and the teaching of compassion and respect for others, regardless of one's race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation.

As members of a learning organization, we each play an integral role in shaping the community consciousness, both present and future. We must not be passive bystanders of acts of hate, injustice and bias of any kind, but position ourselves as thought leaders in calling out and defining what is right.

This is a time for us to come together and heal. Our children deserve to see a supportive and caring community move forward, together, with hopes for a brighter tomorrow.

Broward County Public Schools stands in solidarity with the Orlando community, the LGBTQ community, and with all the victims, families and friends affected by this event. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. In recognition and respect, we asked that flags at all District buildings be flown at half-staff until sunset June 16, 2016.

If any of our students or staff are in need of emotional support, please do not hesitate to contact the Student Services Department at (754) 321-1550. In addition, school and classroom resources are available to address issues of diversity and bias at: [www.browardprevention.org/diversity/lgbtq/](http://www.browardprevention.org/diversity/lgbtq/).

May the spirit of peace once again find space in each of our hearts,

Robert W. Runcie

Superintendent of Schools Broward County Public Schools