June 14, 2020

Cold Spring Family,

We have been writing this letter for several days now as we mourn the murder of George Floyd. We want to acknowledge the hurt, pain, anger, frustration, and myriad of other emotions being experienced by our Cold Spring Family. The senseless murder of George Floyd is yet another in a far-too-long list of tragic deaths of African Americans and people of color in our country. We also continue to battle a global pandemic that is attacking our city and, specifically communities of color, disproportionately. Our community and school family have experienced personal loss that will have a lasting impact and we want you to know we are weeping and mourning alongside you.

That being said, we are grateful for those in our community that are committed to fighting for racial equity. In particular, we are thankful for the leadership of IPS Superintendent Aleesia Johnson. If you have not had an opportunity to read her recent message to the IPS community, you can find it here: https://myips.org/blog/district/a-special-message-from-superintendent-aleesia-johnson/

We are proud of the commitment that Superintendent Johnson has made to racial equity in our educational system and look forward to partnering with her and Indianapolis Public Schools as we move forward together. While every person, organization, and school are at different points in this journey, we wanted to share the steps Cold Spring is taking to move our school forward and serve our students and families.

- We are in the process of creating a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism Commitment Statement. This commitment will serve as a stake in the ground for our school to clearly communicate where we stand as educators. It will also serve as a way to hold ourselves accountable to our commitment to anti-racism.
- As a Racial Equity Pilot School, we will continue to send all staff members through racial equity training. We'll be diving into what it means to be anti-racist and how it should impact our work at Cold Spring.

We know these steps are not the final answer, nor will they solve all of the issues our educational system is facing, but we believe they are important steps in moving our school forward. If you have questions about anything shared in this letter, please do not hesitate to reach out.

In service to our Cold Spring Family,

The Cold Spring School Administration Team

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