



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13J • CITY OF INDEPENDENCE • CITY OF MONMOUTH • WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

November 13, 2018

Dear community member,

Last week, our community was horrified to discover an act of hate. Those initiating the act painted symbols of hate on a public street in Monmouth.

These types of actions are an affront to our values as a nation, state and community. Swastikas are a painful reminder of the Holocaust and crimes committed against all of humanity in the last century. It is beyond comprehension that these symbols would be used in our community. It is all the more disturbing because this is a time of year when we honor veterans who gave their lives defeating those who were responsible for these abhorrent ideas.

As community leaders, we state unequivocally that when any one of our communities or neighborhoods is the target of hate, we must come together and reaffirm our commitment to our core values and goals of inclusion, community, diversity and respect.

We are fortunate our organizations, Central School District, City of Independence, City of Monmouth and Western Oregon University, have an outstanding partnership. We continue to talk about safety and security across all of our organizations and aim to share this information collectively and transparently. We all feel it is imperative to ensure our community is informed, and we take all incidents such as this seriously. As community leaders, it is our goal to ensure everyone is welcome and is provided with a welcoming community that allows each of us to thrive.

We come to you now because we know that many of us are having conversations in our homes, places of work, and on our campuses. We want to assure you that together we are committed to creating a safer and more inclusive community. If you have witnessed an incident of bias, please report it. If your immediate safety is at risk, if you are witnessing violence, or if you perceive imminent harm to yourself or others, please immediately dial 911. Law enforcement continues to investigate this most recent incident.

Acts of anti-Semitism, religious bigotry, racism and unlawful discrimination have no place here. To be clear, we denounce any form of hate in our communities, nation and the world and we invite you to do the same.

As neighbors,

Jennifer Kubista
Superintendent

John McArdle
Mayor

Steve Milligan
Mayor

Rex Fuller
President

Each of our organizations have policies and/or statements that affirm these values, find them here: [Central School District](#), [City of Independence](#), [City of Monmouth](#) and [Western Oregon University](#).