



Dear DPS Community,

Last week we reported a hate incident of racist, homophobic and antisemitic graffiti that was found in a student bathroom at the Holten Richmond Middle School. We took appropriate student disciplinary actions in accordance with our student handbook. Today we were extremely concerned that another incident of antisemitic graffiti occurred when a swastika symbol was found in a student bathroom.

At this time, we do not know who did this or why. We condemn this hate crime and want to be clear that this type of hateful and discriminatory behavior has no place at Holten-Richmond Middle School or in any Danvers public school.

We are very proud of the students who sought out a trusted adult to report it. This is the behavior we have been encouraging in our communications with students and are pleased to see them implementing what they have been taught.

Tomorrow the middle school will hold team meetings to educate students about the significance of the swastika and what it symbolizes, both from a historical perspective and in a modern context, using content from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

HRMS administration and police are investigating and will take appropriate disciplinary and/or legal action in addition to providing counseling and therapeutic support.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dana
Superintendent

Caring. Quality. Commitment. Collaboration.

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