



April 30, 2019

Dear H-F School Community,

As you may know, this past weekend four of our students were involved in highly offensive social media posts that quickly went viral locally and nationally. These students' unfortunate activities, which took place off campus, are unacceptable and do not meet the expectations we have of Homewood-Flossmoor students; the District 233 Board of Education condemns these actions.

The board members would like to thank the H-F administrators for their speedy response investigating the situation, sorting through the facts (a process that is continuing), immediately addressing the students and their families, and beginning to develop a plan to address — not only the behavior — but also the safety and needs of all of our students and staff. We, of course, cannot detail the actions taken with regard to disciplining specific students; however, we can say that we are handling the situation as best we can within the limits of the Illinois School Code and applicable laws.

Also, in addition to the response by our administration, the District 233 Board of Education will be revisiting and moving forward with the diversity and inclusion aspects of our new strategic plan, as they relate to cultural awareness and cultural competency training.

Homewood-Flossmoor High School will continue to stand against racism, and against insensitive and disrespectful behavior of any kind, and will take the appropriate and necessary actions to ensure that all students are respected, that our differences are embraced and that our unity is celebrated. We are proud of the diversity of our community, and we will continue to work with our students, staff, administration and community to protect the values we have worked so hard to establish and instill in our children.

Sincerely,

*Steve Anderson, President*

*Gerald Pauling II, Vice President*

*On behalf of the District 233 Board of Education Homewood-Flossmoor High School*

