



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

*Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools*

January 8, 2021

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty & Staff,

The violence that occurred at the United States Capital Building on Wednesday was unsettling. For our students, this violence and the images of hate displayed in and around the Capital is especially difficult to comprehend and process.

Understandably, our children want to talk about what occurred, as they try to make sense of what they observed with their own eyes. Images of drawn weapons inside the Capital, the Confederate flag waving in the Capital's foyer, rioters scaling walls, a noose hanging on federal property and paraphernalia that glorified the infamous Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz are especially terrifying.

Talking to our children at this moment may be uncomfortable but necessary. As parents and educators, we bear a responsibility to guide these conversations in honest and constructive ways. We must recognize that the behavior of adults affects our children and we must provide a safe space for them to share how they feel. To that end, I am providing our faculty, staff and parents a number of resources that may be used to help guide these conversations with our children.

Resources	
Talking to Kids About the Attack on the Capitol	When Bad Things Are Happening
Talking to Children about Violence - Tips for Parents and Teachers	Responding to Insurrection at the U.S. Capitol
Caring for Students in the Wake of a Traumatic News Event	Resources for a Civil Classroom and Future Voters Project from Teaching Tolerance
Teach 2020 from the Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility	Teaching about Elections and Teaching Civics through an Anti-Bias Lens from the Anti-Defamation League

I hope you find these resources helpful.

Very truly yours,

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Home of the Dragons