



## Binghamton City School District

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May 16, 2022

Dear Binghamton Families,

The horrific tragedy that took place over the weekend in Buffalo involving a member of a nearby community and the mass shooting has had an immediate impact on members of our community. The nature of this hate crime and the tragedies our community has experienced has created a dynamic that affects far too many students, families, and employees in our beautifully diverse school district. Our hearts are broken for all who are affected by this act of hatred and violence.

There is no doubt that this matter will garner continued local, state, and national attention. A resource to assist you with talking with your child about hate crimes can be found here. We stand ready to offer resources such as guidance counselors and school social workers to any student who is in need of support. Please contact your child's teacher or building principal with any concerns.

This terrible event is a sad reminder of the importance of our district's work in the areas of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. It is acts such as this that underscore the urgency to address bias and racism. We will keep striving to ensure that our schools are inclusive, welcoming spaces for all. Thank you for your continued care and support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tonia Thompson  
Superintendent of Schools

*Educating, empowering and challenging all students to become  
productive, global citizens through innovative approaches to learning.*