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October 26, 2016

Dear Warde Parents.

We continue to help guide our students at Warde in dealing with the racial slur posted on social media targeting students at our school. As I mentioned in last week's Infinite Campus message, we responded immediately on last Thursday with a special Advisory session for students and faculty. As some of the staff commented, "This was one of the best advisory sessions I have been a part of with our students." We also conducted a special assembly for the senior class to enlist their support as the leaders of our school in helping the underclass students.

On Wednesday, October 26th, we held another Advisory period designed to get our students and staff thinking about the value of our diversity and how we can rely upon those strengths to move us through moments when our values are tested. We have found the advisories to be a more personal connection for students with the staff in promoting conversations and helping to deal with sensitive topics.

In addition, we have approached the FWHS PTA leadership about constructing a program for parents from both high schools to help us address these concerns. We are aware that this is a community issue, not just an isolated high school incident, and that we will all need to work together to promote tolerance and teach our students the value each person holds.

Please know the staff and administration at Fairfield Warde High School are very proud of your children. They have repeatedly shown to us all that is good about our community, and we are committed to working closely with everyone to learn effective and appropriate ways to address any challenges we encounter, and we will do so in the same manner we always do in our Warde family...together.

Sincerely,

David Ebling

Headmaster