



*New York City Department of Education*

# *Long Island City High School*

*Vivian P. Selenikas, Principal*

*14-30 Broadway  
Long Island City, New York 11106*

*Tel: (718)545-7095 Fax: (718)545-2980  
Email: LICINFO@schools.nyc.gov*

**June 3, 2020**

**Dear Long Island City High School Family,**

**Today as a Long Island City High School Community we take pause to contemplate the pain and anguish we feel following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and other racially motivated incidents around our beloved New York City.**

**This past week has brought to the fore the shameful results of racial oppression and the troubling results of violence in our city. As a school community, we stand in solidarity with all those grieving in our city and in our country.**

**Where we see wrong, we must work for right. Where there is injustice, we must stand for justice. Our LICHS core values of responsibility, ownership, achievement and diversity call for us to speak at this time. This is a time that each of us can reflect on our own actions and reactions and consider when the impact of our words and deeds have fallen short of our intent, so that we might bring about change in our own lives.**

**How do we proceed? Dialogue about these essential and important values as a community is what we have done and what we will continue to do to move forward as a united LICHS community. This is**

**challenging, but we will insist and persist so we can do better and be better as a result.**

**At Long Island City High School we will join together for a day of Breathing: a Positive Protest on Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. All students and staff in all classes will be given the opportunity to join in sessions where we will give our young people the opportunity to share their thoughts around what has happened, how it has affected us and how we can do better to unite as a community. As we raise our students to be the leaders in the paths they choose, we deeply believe in the power of education's foundational ability to promote healing. We will build bridges on this day and continue to build a school culture that fights racism and builds a better tomorrow**

**These learning environments will be grounded in the truth of the past and what has happened, how our core values create possibility for the future and provide essential support for our young people and for our staff.**

**Know that at this time I stand with all of you and say we rise up as LICHS and pledge to do and be better as we move forward.**

**In Unity,**

**Vivian Selenikas, Principal, LICHS**