

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 09, 2023 10:17 AM EDT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: In School Support for Student

Charles E. Brown Middle School
125 Meadowbrook Road
Newton, MA 02459
617-559-6900

October 9, 2023

Dear Brown Middle School Community,

As many of you likely know, this past Saturday violence erupted in Israel and the Gaza Strip. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims of this violence and to the many impacted families in the Brown and Newton Community.

With easy access to round the clock media, our children may likely be aware of reports or have already seen images of these violent events. It is also possible that many of our students may not have heard of the events as their parents have chosen to intentionally keep them from viewing violent images. Within our own community, we have families and faculty who have loved ones in the area for whom they will be worried and anxious during the days and weeks ahead. They may be aware of stories about children and families being targets, leaving them with fear and uncertainty about their own safety. It is our responsibility as adults to support the children in our care. Each will need something different.

During challenging times like this, it is important to re-emphasize the Bear Belief of “be safe and kind.” As one community, adults and students together need to be looking out for each other. It is also critical that we are vigilant about responding to possible acts of anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim microaggressions that could spill into our school community. As a faculty, we prioritize a school that is a safe and inclusive space for all, and we will address any potential acts of racism and microaggressions.

If your student is in need of support, please reach out to your student’s counselor, advisor or teacher. Our staff will be available to support students based on their needs. They will speak with students about what took place in a way that is safe and supportive based on best practices for talking to children about violence and tragedy (resources linked at the bottom of this letter).

[Linked here](#) is a copy of the message from Superintendent Nolin that went out earlier this weekend to all NPS Families and additional resources to support you in your conversations with your children.

As a community, Brown Middle School - staff, students and parents - we continue to stand together against acts of hatred and violence no matter where they take place in our world. Please reach out to our counselors or administrators (listed below) with any questions or need of support in this challenging time.

Best,

[REDACTED], Principal

Mental Health Team:

- [REDACTED] Counselor
- [REDACTED], Psychologist
- [REDACTED], METCO Counselor
- [REDACTED], School Adjustment Counselor
- [REDACTED], Counselor
- [REDACTED], Counselor
- [REDACTED], Psychologist
- [REDACTED], Counselor

Administrators:

- [REDACTED], Principal
- [REDACTED], Assistant Principal for Student Services
- [REDACTED], Assistant Principal
- [REDACTED], Assistant Principal

[Resources for Educators and Families to Discuss the Violence in Israel and Gaza](#)

[Responding to Tragedy: Resources for Educators and Parents](#)

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