

Subject: Fwd: AAPS Statement on Terrorist Attacks in Israel  
From: "Swift, Jeanice" <swift@aaps.k12.mi.us>  
Date: 10/13/2023, 8:00 PM  
To: BOE <boardofed@a2schools.org>  
CC: "Superintendent's Cabinet" <dst\_sup\_cabinet@aaps.k12.mi.us>

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: Swift, Jeanice <swift@aaps.k12.mi.us>  
Date: Fri, Oct 13, 2023 at 7:22 PM  
Subject: Re: AAPS Statement on Terrorist Attacks in Israel  
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for taking the time to share your thoughts with me regarding my choice of words in the email shared on Wednesday.

I take your message very seriously, and am deeply sorry for sharing a message that you felt failed to be appropriately neutral.

Following the feedback you shared, I amended the Superintendent Statement to omit the use of the word 'terrorist,' both in the title and in the opening sentence of the message. You can see the amended message at the link listed below.

I will take more care with the choice of words in any future messages.

Again, my deepest apologies,

Jeanice Swift

<https://www.a2schools.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&ModuleInstanceID=17841&ViewID=7b97f7ed-8e5e-4120-848f-a8b4987d588f&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=26581&PageID=11460>

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 2:05 AM [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Dr. Swift,

I want to believe this email was sent by mistake, please correct me if I'm wrong!

Did you read the email before sending?

The opening of the email ? !?!?!?

I urge you to please take a few minutes and see the attached files.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/208452552148609?s=chYV2B&fs=e&mibextid=IX6t0L>

The least we can do is stay neutral when releasing an statement to a public where we have Palestinian (who have been wronged, oppressed and tessorised for years, see the maps for proof) students as well!

Perhaps another email needs to be sent?

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

With kind regards,

On Wed, Oct 11, 2023, 3:31 PM Jeanice Swift <swift@aaps.k12.mi.us> wrote:

Ann Arbor Public Schools Statement on Terrorist Attacks in Israel  
aaps lead, care, inspire logo

October 11, 2023

Hello AAPS Community,

We are devastated by the terrorist attacks in Israel, and we are heartbroken to hear of the loss of life occurring over recent days in both Israel and Gaza. Our thoughts are with staff, students, families and community members who have been impacted by the crisis that has unfolded. These attacks come at a time of increased antisemitism in the U.S. and around the world. In the Ann Arbor Public Schools community, we believe strongly that there is no place for hate -- whether antisemitism, Islamophobia or xenophobia.

As this situation continues to evolve, it may be especially difficult for our Jewish and Palestinian students, their families and staff members, and it negatively affects us all. Remember that, even if there aren't direct connections to the attacks, this news is alarming for anyone and violence shown in the media can impact our children. In How to talk to children about the violence in Israel and Gaza, National Public Radio has shared expert advice on how to talk with children who may have questions about the conflict, wonder why other children are among those affected, or even question whether they are safe.

Please take care of yourself and those around you. These are challenging times in our world. We know that it is more important than ever for us to come together, to care for ourselves and each other, and to reach out to those who are hurting.

If you or your child needs support, please reach out to a staff member at your school. If you or someone you know needs assistance, it is important to let an adult at school know.

Let's commit to remaining close in our communication, connection and care as we deepen our commitment to the core values of respect for all, so that all in the AAPS feel the support of being united against hate, intolerance or violence of any kind. We are all engaged in the embrace and support of all our students, staff and families in this AAPS community we share together.

We are a stronger community as we honor, embrace and celebrate our diversity, work together to continually create a culture of belonging for all and value the connections that unite us as an inclusive Ann Arbor community.

Jeanice Kerr Swift

Superintendent of Schools

Ann Arbor Public Schools

[www.A2Schools.org](http://www.A2Schools.org)

Keep up with the AAPS News!

Online: [news.a2schools.org](http://news.a2schools.org) | Twitter: @A2schools

Facebook: search for "Ann Arbor Public Schools"

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