



1.7.2020

Charter Arts Students,

We know that today, as a community and a nation, we are still processing the violence and insurrection that occurred yesterday at the US Capitol.

The images of people storming and vandalizing the Capitol highlight the systemic racism and inequitable responses still present in our nation today. Inciting violence and fear should never be confused with the right to peaceful protest. At Charter Arts, we simply will not tolerate injustices that continue to erode systemic change, and we are committed to anti-racism, justice, and equity.

We know that you will continue to talk about these historical events with your peers, teachers, school counselors, and other trusted adults today and in the coming days. As you engage in these conversations, please respect one another's voices and opinions and understand that people will need to process in their own way. Making space for honest and open dialogue is a learning opportunity, educational experience, and is integral to our efforts to promote systemic change. As a school community, we are united and committed to your growth and development as the future of our nation.

As we saw last night, Congress returned to their session to complete their work and did not allow anyone or anything to stop them from resuming their electoral college certification proceedings. They were resilient, our nation is resilient, and we are resilient. History is not only made during events as they unfold, but also through our collective response in the days and months that follow. We are in this together.

*Sincerely,*

*Dr. Comstock*

*Ms. Sheldon*

*Mrs. Rosania-Harvie*

*Mr. Smith*