Dear CDSD Parents, Guardians & Community:

On Monday, January 18, 2021, we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his incredible legacy of service to the human race and quest for civil rights and social justice for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities.

Dr. King’s powerful message of equality and peace still resonates strongly to this day. The Central Dauphin School District firmly denounces hate of any kind. Racism and discrimination have no place in our schools or in our society.

We must all continue Dr. King’s pursuit of equality, and cultivate an inclusive, anti-racist school climate necessary to meet the needs of ALL students in our care.

Our students, no matter their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, language ability, disability, and other identities, deserve to be respected and valued.

ALL students deserve dignity and a quality education.

In honor of his life and legacy, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic may make volunteering more difficult this year, we should each consider what we can do to benefit our community and bring our country together.

Whether it is service to a person in need, donation to a local food bank, or even a simple act of kindness to another, each of us has power to make a positive impact and help create a better and more united nation.

As we reflect during this latest moment of national racial reckoning, the holiday offers a timely opportunity to help move Dr. King’s vision forward through action and contemplation.

We close with Dr. King’s stirring 1967 call to action in front of the Southern Christian Leadership Caucus:

*Let us be dissatisfied until integration is not seen as a problem but as an opportunity to participate in the beauty of diversity.*

*Let us be dissatisfied until men and women, however black they may be, will be judged on the basis of the content of their character, not on the basis of the color of their skin. Let us be dissatisfied.*
Let us be dissatisfied until every state capitol will be housed by a governor who will do justly, who will love mercy, and who will walk humbly with his God.

Let us be dissatisfied until from every city hall, justice will roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

Let us be dissatisfied until that day when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, and every man will sit under his own vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid.

Let us all be inspired to accept no less and to practice this in our homes and communities.

For information and resources regarding recent events and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, please visit:
https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/when-bad-things-are-happening

https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources/current-events/responding-insurrection-us-capitol?fbclid=IwAR3KLG36yutCyL9GP6n-EjRbR829CiP1XnYQY2hTr33HrJ1m3_0xhwLseJg>

https://americorps.gov/newsroom/events/mlk-day#:~:text=Observed%20each%20year%20on%20the,volunteer%20to%20improve%20their%20communities

https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/equityandinclusion/EPH/SelfAwareness/Pages/default.aspx

Sincerely,

Dr. Norman Miller, Superintendent

Dr. Erika Willis, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Operations

A.L. McConnell, CPA/Assistant Superintendent for Finance/ Administrative Operation