

Good morning. This is Principal Meyer.

A recent video posted on social media involving Pleasant Grove students has created great concern among all members of the Pleasant Grove community and the Elk Grove community at large.

First, let me be clear: Hate speech and intolerant acts of any kind are not, and will not, be tolerated at this school, or anywhere in the District. I've stressed this concept many times before, especially at our multi-cultural assemblies, with the catchphrase *Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?* This is what you ask yourself before you say something in person, send a text or an email, or especially before you communicate on social media. And if what you've planned fails any of these three checks--true? necessary? kind?—you don't do it, don't say it, don't post it.

The video in question failed on all three counts and, as a result, this community and indeed people from around the world have agreed with us that such hateful and hurtful words and actions will not be tolerated.

Instead, all of us must continue to show respect and a genuine caring attitude—kindness—toward all students, at all times.

When I walk the campus each day, I witness countless acts of kindness and good will, and it fills me with hope. It gives me confidence that we can continue to work together to make sure every student who comes to our school feels completely welcome and connected.

So now, I'm challenging every one of us to look inward at what we all can do to be more understanding and accepting of others. Together, we will make Pleasant Grove a place where every single student, every single day, feels welcome, respected, and sincerely valued for the unique and wonderful qualities they bring to our school.

Remember, to accomplish this, always check before you speak or act: *Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?*

Thanks for listening, and I know I can count on your support.