

## **Mastery Camden Closed 6/2**

Mastery Parents,

Many of us are struggling to work through the raw pain and rage we are feeling right now. As parents, we must also struggle to explain what is happening to our children. I recognize how deeply exhausting and upsetting this is. School is cancelled tomorrow to give us all a breather. I want every family and all members of our school community to have some time to process and support one another.

I want recognize the pain and anguish our African American staff and families are feeling, and to acknowledge that the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmed Aubrey profoundly impact people of color in our communities and in our organization. I share the anger outrage at the systemic racism that led to George Floyd's murder and hundreds of other crimes – it is also that systemic racism that allows city schools to get half the funding of suburban schools, higher unemployment for people of color, and death to come earlier for Black people compared to White peers. As a white American, and leader of this organization, my heart aches and I am angry.

I am reflecting on how Mastery can best support our communities right now. I am also thinking about how Mastery can use this moment as a catalyst to look inward at how we can do better. I invite you to share your thoughts. Next Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm there will be an online meeting for parents to add their voice to the conversation. In the meanwhile, stay safe and take care.