FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAKES RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR SOCIAL INJUSTICE EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

Resources curated by academic services and counseling teams posted on district website

H.E.L.P. (Hope, Encouragement Listening Platform) line established

PATERSON – Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer today announced that a number of resources to aid in social injustice education have been posted to a special page created on the district’s website. The “Systemic Racism and Social Injustice” page can be accessed through a Quick Link marked “Social Injustice” on the homepage of the district’s website.

“As educators, our job is to empower our students, to help them discover what is already there inside them, and to enhance their growth and strength,” said Shafer. “To this end, our academic services team and counseling team has curated educational resources for every grade level that promote acceptance and tolerance.”

The creation of the web page fulfills a commitment Shafer made in a letter to parents earlier this week. The letter addressed many of the issues raised by the tragic death of George Floyd and the reactions to is around the world.

The district has also repurposed its grief counseling line as a H.E.L.P. (Hope, Encouragement Listening Platform) line to make counselors available to students and community members who are grappling with the emotions they may be feeling during this painful time. The H.E.L.P. lines phone numbers are as follows:

- High School Students: 973-321-0548
- Elementary School Students: 973-321-0551
- Adult members of the Paterson community: 973-321-0552

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