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## Stop Asian hate.

We here at Great MN Schools are deeply saddened and devastated by the mass shooting in Georgia this week, where a white gunman shot and killed eight people at three different Asian businesses in the Atlanta area. Six of the eight people killed were Asian, and all but one identified as female: Delaina Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Xiaojie Tan, Daoyou Feng, Soon C. Park, Hyun J. Grant, Suncha Kim, and Yong A. Yue. We believe it is important for us to know their names. And we continue to grieve with the families, loved ones of the victims, and communities affected by this loss.

While this attack occurred far away from Minneapolis, the issues of racism and hate are also found right here at home. We believe and hope that from this suppression and violence comes understanding, empathy, compassion, resilience, and action. And as we work alongside schools and community organizations that serve and empower those who are marginalized, we must also understand that this is a time of pain and healing.

These attacks come amidst a disturbing nationwide rise in violence and discrimination directed against Asian communities. According to Stop AAPI Hate, over the course of the past year, there have been more than 3,800 anti-Asian incidents in the United States, almost all against women—a 150% increase from the year prior. This rise in violence and the hateful language used throughout the pandemic is inexcusable. Hateful language leads to hateful actions and we must work to put an end to white supremacy and bigotry.

We stand in solidarity and support with our Asian students, families, and communities. To all non-Asian allies, it is our duty to speak up and stand against this hatred wherever and whenever we find it, for an injustice to one is an injustice to all.

These tragic events reinforce the urgency of actions taking place to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion across the country. As we know, our strength comes from championing our diversity, and that embracing our varied perspectives and backgrounds bring us closer together as a community.

In the aftermath of these recent events, we call on each and every one of us to dedicate ourselves in supporting our local Asian communities and doing our part in ending hatred and white supremacy. If you want to support the efforts in Georgia, the Advancing Justice Atlanta team is asking that you [complete this form](#).

In solidarity,  
Great MN Schools

