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October 11, 2023

Hello Grand Blanc Families,

It is with a heavy heart that we address the ongoing struggle in the Middle East and the impact it is having for some locally. Sometimes what is a world away, feels as though it is happening right outside the door for others.

We know that there are students and families in our school community who have close ties to this historic region of the world and may be dealing with very serious personal feelings as a result. The wars in this area originate from very complex issues between Israelis and Palestinians. We recognize that in our school community, we have both Jewish and Muslim families and sympathize with how this may be impacting them personally.

If you have a student who is struggling due to a personal connection to the region, or is having any negative feelings caused by the extreme violence of the war, please reach out to a Student Liaison, Student Advisor or Counselor at your building so that we have the opportunity to provide extra support to them at school.

Please also know that many images and stories shared by media outlets demonstrate bias towards certain groups of people. As a school community, we are all BOBCATS and stand together united in support of peace and humanity. This includes ALL of our students, including those of both Jewish and Muslim faiths. Please continue to support and care for one another with empathy and kindness.

We hope and pray that a peaceful resolution can be found quickly that will put this violence to rest, and express our heart-felt sympathy to those who've lost loved ones or have been directly affected by these recent events in numerous other ways.

To any GBCS families, staff or students affected by this war, we want you to know that we stand by you and with you as BOBCATS, always!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Alward".

Dr. Trevor Alward  
GBCS Superintendent

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya James".

Mrs. Sonya James  
GBCS D.E.I. Director