

It is critical as elected officials and leaders that we acknowledge and reflect on the unfortunate violent events last week in Washington, DC.

Teachers are always among the nation's first responders to world historical developments. We are thankful for the leadership and care exhibited by our teachers and staff during this challenging time. Our children watched the events unfolding in Washington last week, many with fear for their own safety and questions about the continued systemic inequities in our system. Now our children turn to us, and even though we might not have the answers they seek, it is imperative that we listen and process these events together.

We, as the Belmont School Committee, should recommit to doing everything we can to combat division, hate, and racism through actions and discussions in our community. Not giving the events of Washington DC recognition is dismissive of the magnitude of what we're seeing right now and perpetuates the systems that many are working tirelessly to break down. We remain committed to countering the systemic inequities that exist in our school system and empowering all students with the skills, knowledge, and confidence that they need to be successful as citizens and future leaders.