



SWAMPSCOTT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Pamela R. H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.
207 Forest Avenue
Swampscott, MA 01907
Phone: 781 596 8800
Fax: 781 599 2502
Email: angelakis@swampscott.k12.ma.us

February 6, 2018

Dear Swampscott Community,

As some of you may have heard Principal Daniels has announced a profound life change. Principal Daniels has shared with us the intensely personal decision to identify as transgender. I applaud Principal Daniels and admire the courage, honesty and transparency that comes through in the letter you received. As pointed out in that letter, getting to the point of being willing to share those feelings has been a long and challenging process. I hope you will join me and the entire district leadership team in offering Principal Daniels our acceptance, understanding and support.

I am also aware that Principal Daniels' transition will lead to questions. The district will be providing opportunities for education and conversation about this topic in the near future. I think it is important to note that this will mark the beginning of an important community dialogue on the issue. As far as what students are told and how their questions are answered, I will reiterate some suggestions Principal Daniels put forth:

- People express themselves in many ways and it is important that we accept them as they are.
- Principal Daniels identifies as both a male and a female, but over time will look more like a female.
- Principal Daniels is the same caring person who wants the best for every Stanley student. That has not changed.
- We all deserve to be able to live as the genuine person we feel like inside.
- Stanley School is the same great place it has always been.

Principal Daniels has committed to being honest and transparent throughout this personal journey. I will certainly do the same from the district's perspective.

In all my years in Swampscott I know the community to be caring, considerate and accepting and I am confident we can provide the level of support and understanding necessary to help Principal Daniels on this journey.

Sincerely,



Pamela R. H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

Resources

Books for Young Kids

Hall, M. (2015). *Red*. Harper Collins: New York.

Hoffman, S. & Hoffman, I. (2014). *Jacob's new dress*. Albert Whitman & Company: Park Ridge, IL.

Walton, J. (2016). *Introducing Teddy*. Bloomsbury Children's Books: New York.

Electronic

Gender Spectrum <https://www.genderspectrum.org>

Welcoming Schools <https://welcominschools.org>

Our Trans Loved Ones: <https://www.pflag.org/ourtranslovedones>

Video

Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric

The Trans List: <https://www.hbo.com/documentaries/the-trans-list>

Books:

The Transgender Child By Stephanie Brill and Rachel Pepper

Becoming Nicole By Amy Ellis Nutt

Raising the Transgender Child By Dr. Michele Angelo and Alisa Brown