Dear Campus Community,

The tragic death of George Floyd in Minneapolis has led to many comments regarding race relations. While the incident is recent and events are unfolding, we should pray for justice to be served for all people and encourage everyone to work together for constructive solutions, not destructive.

At Alfred State, we affirm that we will treat each other well through our Code of Conduct, Principles of Community, and Core Values of respect, integrity, dedication, and service. A social media post attributed to a prospective ASC student who is not enrolled included his opinion that black Americans should not have rights. While I hesitate to bring such a hateful comment to your attention, we follow principles at Alfred State and silence on this issue might be viewed by some as passive approval. Let me be clear, such statements are not in keeping with our values.

Perhaps the student made the post in jest. It is not funny. I hope this will be a moment of reflection for us all and a teaching moment for anyone who thinks making such statements is appropriate. It is disrespectful and goes against Alfred State’s community values.

I realize that the current healthcare and economic crisis leads to stress and people may act out in unusual ways. That’s all the more reason why we should be looking for ways to work together, help one another, and be stronger together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Skip Sullivan
President