

**DRAFT** (4/14)

Rhode Island School for the Deaf Board of Trustees: Statement on violence against Asians, Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders

We are saddened and deeply dismayed by the recent tragedies in the United States and ongoing reports of discrimination and violence against Asians, Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). These acts are unconscionable.

Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to the mission of the Rhode Island School for the Deaf. Violence against Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities, and the targeting of any individual or group of individuals based on their ethnic or racial status are unacceptable. At Rhode Island School for the Deaf, we respect and affirm our differences; and condemn discriminatory treatment based on race or ethnic status.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf, and we will continue to endeavor to create and sustain an educational environment and school community that are based on and reflect these values.