



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor Shawn Rolland, 6th District

Dear Members of the West Allis Common Council,

Thank you for your service to our community. I am reaching out today to encourage you to support the Resolution Condemning AAPI Violence - and to share some data as to why this symbolic gesture may help do some good in our communities, especially for our young people. I want to guide your attention to an *Associated Press* article published today (April 20, 2021) which describes fears that some Asian American parents have about sending their students back to school, due to concerns about discrimination. Here is a link:

<https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/asian-americans-wary-school-amid-virus-violence-77180869>

Here is an excerpt:

“A September report by Stop AAPI Hate found about 25% of Asian American youths surveyed experienced discrimination, including verbal harassment, social shunning, cyberbullying and physical assault, during the pandemic... more than 12% of reported incidents involved youths ages 17 and under.”

The article also revealed that, “Asian American students have the highest rates of remote learning more than a year after the coronavirus pandemic shuttered school buildings and forced districts to pivot to online classes.”

As a county board supervisor, a Wauwatosa school board member and as a dad, those statistics and those anxieties are compelling to me – and help to demonstrate that, as a people, we should seek opportunities to stand up against bullying and violence, and stand up for these parents and these young people specifically who are looking to local leaders for reassurance.

Thank you for your time, your service and your consideration. I hope you're well.

Sincerely,

Shawn Rolland
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