

Rep. Considine: Statement on Baraboo photo

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Baraboo – Recently, a photo resurfaced showing a group of Baraboo high school students performing a Nazi salute. Rep. Dave Considine (D-Baraboo) said the following in response to the photo:

“This photo is a clear reminder of the racism that is still present in our Baraboo community and in our country. Having worked in the Baraboo School District and lived in this area for many years, I am extremely disappointed and I believe we can all do better than this, including our young people. This incident is a slap in the face to all of our efforts to eliminate hatred, racism, and bigotry from our community.

“However, I also believe the actions of these students are informed by the attitudes they see every day in the adults around them – from their fellow citizens all the way up to their President and other leaders. I hope we use this incident as an opportunity to take a serious, critical look at the differences between our stated values and the behaviors we see in our community.

“It is clear that we still have much more work to do to make Baraboo a place where racism is not tolerated and where all are truly welcome. These discussions may be difficult, but they are critical to our community’s well-being. I look forward to joining our community in that work, and I am ready to help however I can.”