

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Virtual Meeting as Allowed by
Executive Directive 2020-2 and Executive Order 2020-75

June 9, 2020
9:30 a.m.

- Present: Dr. Michael F. Rice, Chairperson
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, President
Dr. Pamela Pugh, Vice President
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, Secretary
Mr. Tom McMillin, Treasurer
Ms. Tiffany Tilley, NASBE Delegate
Dr. Judith Pritchett, SBE Legislative Committee Co-Chairperson
- Absent: Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny, SBE Legislative Committee Chairperson
Ms. Nikki Snyder, SBE Legislative Committee Member
Ms. Brandy Johnson, representing Governor Gretchen Whitmer, ex officio
- Also Present: Ms. Cara Lougheed, 2019-2020 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Rice called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Dr. Rice said due to the COVID-19 national emergency and in accordance with Executive Directive 2020-2 and Executive Order 2020-75, the State Board of Education Regular and Committee of the Whole meeting is being convened with remote access technology.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Dr. Pritchett moved, seconded by Dr. Pugh, that the State Board of Education add Approval of Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children following Item III.A. on the agenda.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to amend the agenda.

Fecteau – Aye
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye

The motion carried.

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Dr. Pritchett, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority, as amended.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

**Fecteau – Aye
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried.

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Dr. Rice asked that the members of the State Board of Education be introduced. Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced the members of the State Board of Education.

IV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:35 a.m. and convened the Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

V. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Rice called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

VI. EDUCATIONAL UPDATES RELATED TO COVID-19

Dr. Rice said it has been three months since the first known COVID-19 cases in the state. He said it is an extraordinary moment, unlike any that we have ever lived through. He said the meeting includes updates on work associated with COVID-19 including child care, feeding, state budget, and school budget ramifications.

Dr. Rice said in addition there will be an update on the continuing work on the strategic education plan including draft guiding principles, goals, and metrics, as well as an update on partnership districts.

Dr. Rice said consistent with the Resolution Regarding Funding to Preserve Educational Services for Children passed by the board during its May 12, 2020 meeting, prekindergarten through 12th grade education associations have formed a coalition, Our Children Our Future, to lobby Congress to preserve educational services for children and address the digital divide.

Dr. Rice shared information regarding the groups that are working on the return to school road map, with a targeted completion date of June 30, 2020. Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Dr. Rice said later in the meeting the board will be considering a resolution on the eradication of racism and the creation of more equitable and more inclusive schools for all.

Dr. Rice said the first presentation of educational updates related to COVID-19 is child care.

Child Care

Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent, P-20 System and Student Transitions, and Ms. Lisa Brewer-Walraven, Director, Child Development and Care, provided information on child care programs.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Board member comments included appreciation of staff work to ensure safe places for children when parents return to work, determining increased child care needs in upcoming months, geographic location of child care centers in areas of high need and serving children with underlying health conditions.

Feeding Children

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations, and Dr. Diane Golzynski, Director, Health and Nutrition Services, provided information on food and meal distribution.

Information was shared via [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Ms. Lougheed joined the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

Board member comments included the federal waiver requested for more summer feeding locations, thanks for the wonderful efforts to provide food upon which families depend, and the importance of nutrition and physical activity.

VII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 10:17 a.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

VIII. MOTION TO RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Dr. Rice asked for a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting to consider a resolution, which was added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

Dr. Pritchett moved, seconded by Dr. Pugh, that the State Board of Education reconvene the Regular Meeting.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

**Fecteau – Aye
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried.

IX. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ERADICATE RACISM AND TO CREATE MORE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS FOR BLACK CHILDREN/ ALL CHILDREN

Dr. Rice requested a motion to approve the Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children.

Dr. Pritchett moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education approve the Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children, as presented during the June 9, 2020 meeting.

Dr. Pritchett read the draft resolution.

Ms. Fecteau said she strongly supports Dr. Pritchett's leadership in drafting the resolution with input from others. She said she also appreciates the leadership of young people in organizing and leading efforts demanding change throughout the whole state.

Dr. Pugh said she agrees with Ms. Fecteau, and commends Dr. Pritchett's leadership. Dr. Pugh said public health looks at racism as a pandemic.

Mr. McMillin said government violence against George Floyd and many others is unacceptable and intolerable. He said while he was a state legislator he sponsored several pieces of legislation regarding government assault on civil liberties. He said he would like to propose an amendment to the resolution. He said important protests have led to looting and other acts of violence. He said when correcting inequities or promoting equity, some people think that includes rioting and looting. Mr. McMillin said it is important to say that won't be tolerated. Mr. McMillin said if the amendment is accepted, he can support the resolution.

Mr. McMillin moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children, be amended by adding Whereas, we condemn all efforts to remove inequities, real or perceived, by use of rioting and looting.

Dr. Pugh said she has an issue with the wording real or perceived. She said the resolution says the Board stands against violence, which includes looting and rioting. She said people have taken advantage of the plight and the pain that this country is going through at this time and she doesn't think it belongs in the resolution. She said she certainly condemns rioting and looting, but she absolutely supports the right to protest.

Mr. McMillin clarified the meaning of real or perceived inequities, as used in the amendment.

Dr. Ulbrich said she understands Mr. McMillin's point, but agrees with Dr. Pugh that it is a separate issue. She said the board should be cautious about adding to the point that we have a responsibility to help eradicate racism and inequities. She said schools, educators, and students have a responsibility that many of them are choosing to utilize at this moment. She said it is simply saying that we recognize, support, and applaud it.

Ms. Tilley said violence is not the answer, but she understands it. She said white males and police officers are going to locations and inciting riots, and African Americans are expected to be submissive and peaceful even when being killed. She said George Floyd died on the street; it has happened for centuries; and people should be fighting back.

Mr. McMillin said it needs to be made clear in the resolution that rioting is not good, or he cannot support it.

Ms. Tilley said there a culture of violence and black people being brutalized and constantly attacked. She said our young men, women, and children are not safe. She said if racism and unwarranted murders are addressed, we won't have to worry about riots and looting.

Dr. Ulbrich said she appreciates the passion of the discussion. She said the resolution speaks to responsibilities of schools, and doesn't reference protests. She said the inclusion of the amendment is out of context, because it is not about the last ten days. She said it is about the next ten years and the long term. She said she will not support the amendment.

Dr. Pritchett said Dr. Ulbrich summed up her concerns. She said public schools are great equalizers, and the board's charge and focus should be on public schools and what can be done in the future by educators and students. She said schools accept all and have a wonderful opportunity to serve all.

Dr. Pugh said the resolution should not perpetuate the thought that people should be more concerned about property than people. Education is one of the most vital components toward the wellbeing of children, and she provided statistics on racial disparities. She said she is grateful and thankful for young people who are pushing us with passion and urgency.

Ms. Fecteau said she is the mother of two black sons, six brown children, and two white children. She said it has given her a perspective and heightened awareness of how people are treated differently and the impact on mental health. She said the final paragraph of the resolution captures the board's stance against violence. She said violence and looting hurts the cause.

Dr. Pugh said rioting and looting falls under violence. She said sometimes protesting can be misconstrued as such, and peaceful protesting is best. She said she will not support the amendment.

Ms. Fecteau said she supports civil disobedience, as effectively used by Dr. Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi.

Ms. Tilley said she is not in favor of rioting and looting. She said we are at a point where it has boiled over bringing us to a time where people are standing up against violence. She said there have never been so many people speaking up in the past. She said the death threats and weapons at the Capitol are unacceptable.

Mr. McMillin said he is willing to change the amendment to make it clear that he is talking about destruction of property. He said many people say to right inequities, you can use violence.

Dr. Pugh said she is concerned about people and not as concerned about property.

Mr. McMillin said his proposed amendment will stand as originally written.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to amend.

Fecteau – Nay
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Nay
Pugh – Nay
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Nay
Ulbrich – Nay

The motion to amend failed.

Discussion followed.

A roll call vote was taken on the original motion.

Fecteau – Aye
McMillin – Abstain
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye

The motion carried.

The Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children is attached as Exhibit A.

X. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 11:24 a.m. and reconvened the Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XI. PRESENTATION ON STRATEGIC EDUCATION PLAN

Ms. Sheila Alles, Chief Deputy Superintendent, and Ms. Kelly Siciliano Carter, Director of Strategic Planning and Implementation, presented on the Strategic Education Plan.

Dr. Rice said Michigan’s Strategic Education Plan presentation will include information on the current mission and vision, amended guiding principles, and potential goals and metrics for the updated plan.

Information was shared via [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Dr. Rice invited board members to comment on guiding principles. He said guiding principles overarch the goals.

Ms. Fecteau said Guiding Principle 1 is inclusive and clear.

Dr. Pugh said discussion on Michigan’s Strategic Education Plan began before the time that we are in now, which now needs to be considered in the plan. She said closing gaps of disparity should be added, as related to the Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children that was adopted earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Fecteau said she appreciates Guiding Principle 2, which speaks to educators and support staff. She thinks having it as a guiding principle is important.

Dr. Rice invited board members to comment on goals.

Ms. Fecteau suggested adding an independent goal addressing Dr. Pugh's comments on closing gaps of disparity.

Dr. Pritchett said expanding secondary learning opportunities should include encouragement for schools to have opportunities not on the list.

Dr. Pugh said a goal related to the African American achievement gap should show that we believe what we said and it should relate to the times we are in with regard to racism and inequitable conditions in the education system. She said it should be measurable and achievable.

Ms. Fecteau said secondary learning opportunities should include transitional services and vocational programming. She said there should be more opportunities for students with disabilities.

Dr. Ulbrich suggested that it could be included in graduation metrics.

Mr. McMillin said he supports closing the achievement gap. He said he does not want metrics to lead to high stakes testing in only certain subjects, leaving other subjects by the wayside. He said one way to close the achievement gap is to bring down those at the top, and he doesn't want that to happen.

Ms. Fecteau said high stakes test scores should not be the only metrics considered. Dr. Pritchett, Dr. Ulbrich, and Dr. Pugh agreed.

Discussion continued later in the meeting.

Ms. Fecteau said she will be leaving the meeting, and she wanted to suggest that the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) provide input to the work groups representing urban, suburban, and rural issues related to the return to school. She said SEAC could offer input on special education and concerns of children who may have underlying health conditions.

Ms. Fecteau left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

XII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:02 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Ms. Teri Pettit, Special Education Advisory Committee Facilitator, from Hartland, Michigan, provided comments on the most recent Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, vacancies, and recruitment.

XIV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting and reconvened the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 1:10 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XV. THE STATE BUDGET AND SCHOOL BUDGETS – FEDERAL FUNDING

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations, provided an update on the state budget and school budgets – federal funding.

Information was shared via [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Board member comments included timing of State School Aid payments, and the United States Department of Education’s interpretation of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act regarding funding to nonpublic schools.

XVI. PRESENTATION ON STRATEGIC EDUCATION PLAN

This is a continuation of discussion from earlier in the meeting.

Dr. Rice said following the morning presentation, there was discussion on guiding principles and goals. He invited board members to comment on metrics.

Dr. Ulbrich said a standardized test should not be the only metric, and she would like additional metrics added to literacy.

Dr. Ulbrich said self-reported health and safety data may not be accurate, because students may be leery of answering truthfully.

Dr. Ulbrich said early middle college students may be highly successful, even if they do not complete the entire program, so both program completion and participation should be considered.

Dr. Pritchett said National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data have been concerning to her, because it is randomized and not everyone takes the test. Dr. Rice said it is the only metric available for a national comparison. He said Michigan is in the middle third of results in the country.

Dr. Pugh said she agrees with previous comments on standardized testing. She said she would like to see more on physical health, and reasons for absenteeism such as asthma, blood lead levels, and cortisol levels. She said there should be a move toward correlations and more robust statistics to get closer to predictors of achievement and drivers of outcomes.

Mr. McMillin said he agrees with Dr. Ulbrich on standardized tests. He said he is concerned about unintended consequences.

Mr. McMillin said he wants to know if parents, teachers, and taxpayers are satisfied. He said parents could be satisfied regarding different things. He said surveys may be the best way to make that determination.

Dr. Pugh said there should be a move beyond descriptive statistics.

XVII. UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE PARTNERSHIP DISTRICTS

Dr. William Pearson, Director, Office of Partnership Districts; and Ms. Gloria Chapman, Assistant Director, Office of Partnership Districts; provided an update from the Office of Partnership Districts.

Dr. Rice said the presentation includes information on the Review of Goal Attainment structured conferences that occurred virtually in the spring.

Information was shared via [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Board member comments included status of districts, agreement of districts that they are off track, and consequences of being off track.

There was also a question regarding the status of Benton Harbor Area Schools. Dr. Rice said Benton Harbor Area Schools is not a Partnership District and an update can be shared later.

Dr. Rice said two-thirds of the Partnership Districts are on track toward goal attainment. He said the Partnership District model is a strong model by former State Superintendent Brian Whiston, and it is a testament to Mr. Whiston, the State Board of Education, and the Office of Partnership Districts.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 2:17 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XIX. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2020

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Dr. Pritchett, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2020.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

**Fecteau – Absent
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Work Session of May 20, 2020

Dr. Pritchett moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Work Session of May 20, 2020.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

**Fecteau – Absent
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried.

XX. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Ulbrich said she appreciates the conversation surrounding the Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children. She thanked Dr. Pritchett for drafting it.

Dr. Ulbrich said she applauds the efforts of Communities in Schools and those who support and serve others stressing the importance of caring relationships as exemplified by public schools. She said schools have proven their value during the pandemic. She said there is a budget crisis, and schools need to be in a stable financial position. She said students in school means people can go back to work.

XXI. REPORT OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Report

G. Human Resources Report

H. Report on Teacher Certification Revocation

Grants

I. Report on Grant Awards

1. 2019-2020 Criteria for Career Pathways - Initial; \$749,860 (Career and Technical Education – Brian Pyles)

Dr. Rice said Dr. Ulbrich was honored by Communities in Schools during the Leadership in Education virtual dinner. He said it is a well-deserved honor.

Dr. Rice urged people to make clear to state and federal legislators that children should not be adversely affected by profound budget cuts.

Dr. Rice said the murder of George Floyd was the latest in a series of racially motivated actions. He said there is a responsibility to provide leadership, guidance, and resources to benefit local educators to root out the scourge of racism.

XXII. REPORT OF THE MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Cara Lougheed, 2019-2020 Michigan Teacher of the Year, provided the Michigan Teacher of the Year Report.

Ms. Lougheed provided information via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Ms. Lougheed said highlights of the past month include the Teachers of the Year as members of work groups supporting Dr. Rice's participation on Governor Whitmer's COVID-19 Task Force. She said Ms. Tabatha Rosproy, from Kansas, is the National Teacher of the Year. She said she participated in the Governor's Education Advisory Committee and helped moderate an Education Week chat. She said she is working on next school year.

Ms. Lougheed said she believes black lives matter and white people, including teachers, should not be silent about racism. She said she appreciates the Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children passed by the board during the meeting.

XXIII. APPROVAL OF NOMINATIONS TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – ORGANIZATIONAL SEAT REPLACEMENTS

Dr. Rice said the board is being asked to approve the Special Education Advisory Committee Organizational Seat Replacements, as presented by Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent of P-20 System and Student Transitions; and Ms. Teri Chapman, Director of Special Education.

Dr. Pritchett moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the nominees listed in Attachment B of the Superintendent’s memorandum dated May 26, 2020, and appoint those individuals to serve as members of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for the terms specified.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

**Fecteau – Absent
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Absent
Snyder – Absent
Tilley – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried.

XXIV. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Dr. Pritchett said she appreciates the comments during the discussion and input while drafting the Resolution to Eradicate Racism and to Create More Equitable and Inclusive Schools for Black Children/All Children.

Dr. Pritchett said she appreciates the Office of Partnership Districts and the process, which was conceptualized by former State Superintendent Brian Whiston.

Dr. Pugh said people have been marching all across the country protesting, and raising their voices to proclaim that Black Lives Matter. She said it has brought us all together to move us out of a place of systems where racism is still able to live. She shared statistics on racial disparities and said greater numbers of African Americans have suffered from COVID-19, which has caused a social emotional drain in communities that have lost tremendous knowledge and people who have held communities together.

Dr. Pugh said people are eager to get their children back in school with a return to normalcy, but it has to be done in the right way to make sure parents have a safe place for their children while they return to work. She said race does matter, and Black Lives Matter means that we are looking out for all of us.

Dr. Pugh said education is a huge factor in outcomes and upstream factors related to the outcomes that disrupt families and communities. She suggested training to help people be of one accord while talking about the issues.

Dr. Pugh said she is awaiting information on the closure of Avondale Academy.

Ms. Tilley thanked Dr. Pritchett for drafting the resolution and everyone who worked hard on it and stood up for injustices. She said people are passionate, and although she understands the frustration, she does want peace. She said she wants people to understand that their voice is needed. She said most of the people involved in the recent rioting in Detroit were not citizens of Detroit.

Ms. Tilley said she participated in a drive by graduation for her neighbor. She said she delivered a graduation speech during a virtual event hosted by Wayne County Commissioner Monique Baker McCormick. Ms. Tilley congratulated graduates, parents, and their family members.

Ms. Tilley said she and her colleagues are going to do their best to make sure children are safe during the upcoming school semester.

XXV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday August 11, 2020 Regular Meeting at 9:30 a.m.
- B. Tuesday, September 8, 2020 Regular Meeting at 9:30 a.m.
- C. Tuesday, October 13, 2020 Regular Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

XXVI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Dr. Rice said there will be no meeting in July. He asked Board members if there are additional agenda topics they would like to be considered for future meeting agendas. He said they may contact Mrs. Schneider or himself to offer topics.

XXVII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available on Michigan's State Board of Education website (www.michigan.gov/sbe).

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau
Secretary

RESOLUTION TO ERADICATE RACISM AND TO CREATE MORE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS FOR BLACK CHILDREN/ALL CHILDREN

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education provides the leadership and general supervision of Michigan public education;

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education and the Michigan Department of Education stand firmly against all acts of individual and systemic racism;

WHEREAS, we wish to end violence and injustices and unequivocally declare that black lives matter and that an injustice to one is an injustice to all;

WHEREAS, we believe that children begin their lives without hatred and bigotry, and that our 831 local school districts and our 56 intermediate school districts must uphold the public's trust by fostering understanding, acceptance, respectful civic discourse, and inclusion among our students when they enter the schoolhouse doors;

WHEREAS, we believe in the ability of our schools to uplift a community of diverse ideas that recognize and celebrate all the attributes that form children and hold true to the ideal--that we are all created equal;

WHEREAS, we believe that schools are a vital part of a much larger world and need to play their very substantial role in eradicating racism;

WHEREAS, we believe that educators should be life-long learners about race and racism and should be provided the necessary resources to facilitate discussions of race and racism, to help themselves and students understand history and humanity from diverse points of view, and to challenge themselves and students to ground perceptions in facts;

WHEREAS, we believe that, as educators grow, they must continue to reflect on and amend curricula, training, policies, and systemic practices used in schools to help root out racism;

WHEREAS, we commend students when they demonstrate leadership in expressing their commitment to improving their world; and

WHEREAS, we believe that, in partnership with the Michigan Department of Education, we must review current and proposed state budgets, standards, policies, legislation, and policy guidance to ensure that they promote equity and aggressively discourage and disrupt practices that allow racial inequities to persist;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Michigan State Board of Education does hereby commit to stand against any and all acts of racism, disrespect, violence, and inequitable treatment of any person and to provide leadership with the Michigan Department of Education to support local public schools and districts in their efforts to help eradicate racism and to create more equitable and inclusive schools for all children.

Adopted June 9, 2020