



## A Unified Voice for Public Education in Nebraska to End Systemic Racism Through Education Policies and Practices

Lincoln, NE, June 11, 2020 – As a unified voice for public education in Nebraska, the leaders, members and employees of the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB), Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA), and the Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) join Commissioner Matt Blomstedt, as Nebraska and the entire country work to end systemic racism through education policies and practices. We embrace the role education has in charting a more inclusive society.

In the words of Commissioner Blomstedt, “There is no healing, no recovery, no hope, no future without education.” Our three organizations combine to represent 326,000 students, 28,000 educators, 1,700 locally elected school board members, and 1,300 administrators across Nebraska’s 530 communities.

This education must take place not only in the classroom but permeate the voice and culture of the community outside the classroom as well. As Commissioner Blomstedt continued to say, “We, in education, have an opportunity to hear voices that are too often excluded from developing education policies reflective of our diverse communities. We must create space to genuinely and intentionally embed racially diverse perspectives into our conversations and actions.” Our organizations are committed to going beyond statements and moving to action. Towards that end, we will be working collectively and within our own organizations to commit to action steps that can be taken by each of us to reach these ideals.

Looking to the future we need to listen, learn, then lead. It starts with us. Racial equity is the great unfinished work of this country. Our students give us reason to hope.

We understand the importance of preparing today’s students to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Stacie Higgins  
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Nebraska City BOE

Terry Houlton  
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Millard Public Schools

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