

nsba Spotlight

FEBRUARY 2021

Equity

Overview

NSBA is committed to educational equity for all children in public schools. Our statement defining the concept of educational equality reads:

“We affirm in our actions that each student can, will, and shall learn. We recognize that based on factors including but not limited to disability, race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status, students are deprived of equitable educational opportunities. Educational equity is the intentional allocation of resources, instruction, and opportunities according to need, requiring that discriminatory practices, prejudices, and beliefs be identified and eradicated.”

NSBA has four [equity councils](#) which work to ensure that school board members understand and are equipped to support the unique needs of historically disadvantaged children.

We have also recently launched an initiative aimed at [Dismantling Institutional Racism in Education \(DIRE\)](#). DIRE acknowledges that institutional, structural, and systemic racism is ingrained in the history of America and throughout its public education system. It seeks to work externally with our federation and their school board members to understand and recognize the root causes of barriers to equitable educational outcomes for all children, work together to eliminate disproportionality in all aspects of public education, and transform the systems that perpetuate these inequities for the public school children served by school boards.

To highlight just how critical the issue of equity in education is on a national level, more than 1,800 school leaders from across the country have registered for this year’s [Equity Online Symposium](#). This is the signature event for people who want to learn more about what they can do to take action and effect change!

[New! NSBA Equity Statement Video](#)

[New Publication! Reimagining School Board Leadership: Actions for Equity](#)

NSBA In The News

[Black, Hispanic, and Low-Income Students Are Falling Behind in Math and Reading During the Pandemic | Parents](#) (Dec. 2020) — Verjeana McCotter-Jacobs, Esq.

[U.S. schools revamp curricula in response to Black Lives Matter | Reuters](#) (Aug. 2020) — Anna Maria Chávez

[Teachers are reinventing how Black history, anti-racism are taught in schools as system falls short | GMA \(goodmorningamerica.com\)](#) (Jun. 2020) — Anna Maria Chávez and Verjeana McCotter-Jacobs, Esq.

NSBA Resources

NSBA Coalition Statement (Jan. 2021): [NSBA Asks Federal Communications Commission to Close Remote Learning Gap](#)

NSBA Report (2020): [Protections for LGBTQ Employees and Students after Bostock v. Clayton County \(nsba.org\)](#)

NSBA Report (2020): [Increasing Equity and Achievement by Empowering Students \(nsba.org\)](#)

NSBA Report (2020): [School Leader Voices: Concerns and Challenges to Providing Meaningful IDEA-related Services During COVID-19 \(nsba.org\)](#)

NSBA Center for Public Education Blog Post (Aug. 2020): [Remote Learning versus Refreshing Changes in Public Schools \(nsba.org\)](#)

NSBA Center for Public Education Blog Post (Jun. 2020): [Black Students in the Condition of Education 2020 \(nsba.org\)](#)

NSBA Center for Public Education Report (2020): [Black Students in the Condition of Education 2020 \(nsba.org\)](#)

NSBA Now! Dismantling Institutional Racism in Education (Nov. 2020): [NSBA Now! Dismantling Institutional Racism in Education \(DIRE\) on Vimeo](#)

Events & Programming

Joint Leadership Equity Councils Digital Learning Series: [Joint Leadership Equity Councils Digital Learning Series \(nsba.org\)](#)

Equity Online Symposium: [Equity Online Symposium 2021 \(nsba.org\)](#)

The [NSBA 2021 Online Experience](#) offers peer-selected educational sessions designed to advance work towards providing an equitable education to every child. Sessions include The Voice of the Child, Addressing Implicit Biases, Dismantling Racism in Schools: What Will It Take?, and more.

NSBA Articles

[Diverse Teachers Matter \(nsba.org, Feb. 2021\)](#)

[Equity Lens \(nsba.org, Feb. 2021\)](#)

[Who Tells Your Story \(nsba.org, Dec. 2020\)](#)

[The Past is Our Present \(nsba.org, Dec 2020\)](#)

[The Condition of Native American Students \(nsba.org, Dec. 2020\)](#)

[The Time Is Now \(nsba.org, Aug. 2020\)](#)

[2020 Magna Awards: Grand Prize \(nsba.org, Apr. 2020\)](#)

[Accurate and Equitable Grading \(nsba.org, Feb. 2020\)](#)

Social Media Toolkit

Here are a few sample social media posts that you may use (or use for inspiration) to share with your network.

Twitter

A future where every student receives an equitable education is possible. Join @nsbapubliced in being part of the solution. #NSBA4Equity

<https://www.nsba.org/Advocacy/Equity>

Each child deserves the opportunity to succeed without barriers to learning. @nsbapubliced is committed to supporting policies that ensure all children can receive a high-quality education. #NSBA4Equity

<https://www.nsba.org/Advocacy/Equity>

Dismantling Institutional Racism in Education (DIRE), an @nsbapubliced initiative, is dedicated to recognizing how racism manifests in our nation's schools and helping state school boards associations work toward educational equity. #NSBA4Equity

<https://nsba.org/dire>

Facebook, LinkedIn

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NSBA Subject Matter Experts

[Verjeana McCotter-Jacobs, Esq.](#) and [Kanisha Williams](#)