



## **PASA Statement on Racism**

Racism is a long-recognized scar on the soul of our nation that continues to inflict pain and misery on too many of our minority citizens, especially black citizens as was evidenced by the recent death of George Floyd. Our public schools need to be a bastion of hope to eliminate racism in our society. We must refocus our efforts to ensure that equity and respect are woven through every facet of our school programs and activities.

It is said that one of the greatest honors of being an educator is that we have to opportunity to pass our culture along from one generation to the next. Part of that work needs to include ending the elements of racism that permeate our society. If racism is ever to be eradicated, our public schools will need to play a significant role in leading the effort.

We need a renewed determination to listen to the black community and other marginalized people if we are going to develop and provide educational programs for our children that pass along a culture free of racism and filled with hope for the future.

Dr. Mark DiRocco, PASA Executive Director

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