



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The New Jersey Public Charter Schools Association mourns the loss of George Floyd's life and the countless men and women of color whose lives have been cut short by horrific acts of violence and racial injustice. We applaud the decision of some of our schools [to cancel class to offer their students, families and staff a time to grieve](#). We stand in solidarity with our black member school leaders, advocates, families, and students across New Jersey. We also stand alongside the thousands of protesters making their voices heard to dismantle the systemic racism and injustice that have plagued our country for centuries.

As a statewide advocacy organization, we serve and represent 54,587 public charter school students -- 50% of whom are African-American. We are firmly committed to the belief that every student deserves access to a great public education at a school that puts their needs first regardless of zip code, income, ability level, and most importantly race.

We are more committed than ever to bringing about greater educational opportunities for New Jersey's children, and we are also committed to doing the work to better educate our entire community to be allies for our black students and families.

As part of this commitment, we are taking a small but intentional step to provide financial support to the [Equal Justice Initiative](#), an organization that seeks to end mass incarceration, challenges racial and economic injustice and protects basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. If you are able, we encourage you to do the same.

There is so much more work to do and we commit to doing better, as an organization and in our personal lives.

In solidarity,

NJPCSA Team