



NAACP

Fairfax County

April 14, 2022

Joint Statement with Partners

On Saturday April 9, 2022, the Fairfax County NAACP released a statement regarding the ongoing search for the new Superintendent for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). Since then, we have been inundated with support from organizations and individuals of all walks of life, all demographics, from across the county and the country. Additionally, more troubling information continues to be shared with us including dangerous seclusion and restraint numbers, and special education practices.

The issue we all agree on is that FCPS needs a superintendent who has commensurate experience in leading organizations of this size, diversity, and complexity, and that the Superintendent of Northshore School District isn't the right fit.

We are a group representing faith leaders, racial justice advocates for multiple underrepresented minority populations, special education and disability rights advocates, Queer community advocates, teachers, students, and parents. We are all equally alarmed that despite having promised a process that would include community engagement and community voices, thus far it seems this commentary and feedback was not given the weight it merits. Stakeholders and community panelists are left to wonder if these community engagement opportunities were performative and whether our feedback was dismissed.

The racial diversity and growth of our school system warrant a Superintendent whose personal background and educational growth and development reflect the broad makeup of the families the county seeks to serve.

Therefore we, the undersigned, formally request that the FCPS School Board bring in a Superintendent with the qualifications, experience, and knowledge to lead a school system of the size, diversity, and complexity of FCPS. For a complete analysis, please read our [Superintendent Statement](#).

We again ask that our School Board honor its fiduciary responsibility to the Fairfax County community and hire a superintendent who can be the leader our community needs.

President Karen T. Campblin, Fairfax County NAACP
Pastor Vernon Walton, First Baptist Church of Vienna
Pastor Howard John Wesley, Alfred Street Baptist Church
Pastor Darryl White, Bethlehem Baptist Church
Pastor Augustus Henderson, Christian Way Baptist Church
Pastor Nelson Sneed, Little Forest Baptist Church
Pastor Janice Jenkins (Retired)
Reverend Dr. Robert F. Cheeks, Jr., Shiloh Baptist Church
Pastor James Gibson, First Baptist Church ChesterBrook
International Coalition Against Restraint and Seclusion
Neurodivergent Liberation Coalition
Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)
Pride Liberation Project
Communication First