



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fairfax County NAACP Calls for Action on Anti-Black Bias Concerns Raised at June 18 FCPS Superintendent's Forum

FAIRFAX COUNTY, Va. — The Fairfax County NAACP is calling for immediate and sustained action from Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) following its Superintendent's Forum on June 18, where families again raised serious concerns regarding anti-Black bias and inequitable treatment within the school system.

During the forum, a parent shared a detailed account of her son's experience in FCPS, alleging that he was subjected to racial slurs and other racially hostile conduct by fellow students, including incidents involving use of the N-word and behavior she described as mocking and demeaning on the basis of his race. Her testimony reflected broader concerns echoed by other families over time and added to ongoing community calls for clearer reporting processes, greater transparency, and stronger accountability in how discrimination complaints are handled and resolved.

The Fairfax County NAACP made clear that these were not isolated concerns to be minimized or set aside. They reflected a pattern of firsthand accounts from families that demand meaningful action and corrective measures. The Branch also raised concerns about how reports of bias and discrimination are handled across multiple levels of the school system, including regional superintendents, school administrators, and classroom educators. Families have repeatedly described a pattern in which concerns are not met with consistent action or clear resolution, but are instead deflected, minimized, or inconsistently addressed across administrative levels. This breakdown in communication and follow-through undermines trust and prevents meaningful resolution for impacted students and families.

The Branch is calling on FCPS leadership to move beyond acknowledgment and toward clear, measurable action by:

- Conducting a transparent and timely review of reported incidents of bias and discrimination
- Ensuring consistent, accessible, and clearly communicated reporting processes for students and families
- Providing clear outcomes and follow-up when complaints are filed
- Strengthening training, oversight, and performance expectations for staff and administrators
- Engaging directly with impacted families with transparency, responsiveness, and resolution

“The testimony shared during our Superintendent’s Forum was a stark reminder that families are still experiencing what they describe as anti-Black bias within Fairfax County Public Schools. These accounts reflect what too many families continue to face across our community. They are not isolated voices, and they cannot be treated as such,” said Niki Zimmerman, president of the Fairfax County NAACP. “The Fairfax County NAACP is clear: this community deserves accountability, transparency, and decisive action, not continued delay or dismissal.”

The Fairfax County NAACP Education Committee stands ready to partner with FCPS to support efforts to create a safer, more equitable learning environment for Black students and all students. The Branch believes accountability and partnership must work together to produce meaningful progress.

The Branch will continue to monitor FCPS responses and engage with families, educators, and community stakeholders to ensure concerns raised are met with concrete action and sustained change. Further updates will be provided as this work continues.

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About the Fairfax NAACP

The Fairfax County NAACP is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose mission is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well being, educational and economic security of Black people and all people of color. More information can be found at fairfaxnaacp.org.

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