

Message from the CMC State Board:

Statement of Anti-Racism

by Christine Roberts, CMC State President
president@cmc-math.org; @mathschistine



TO OUR COMMUNITY OF MATHEMATICS EDUCATORS:

The deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery are tragic and horrific reminders of the systemic racism that exists in our society. All that we see, our children see as well. As educators, we carry a moral imperative to do whatever we can to educate ourselves and to educate future generations to be better than us, and ensure that the arc of the moral universe continues to bend towards equity and justice.

CMC believes in the mathematics potential of all students, but belief is not enough. As a community, we must actively engage in brave and courageous conversations about anti-racism and commit to anti-racist practices, pedagogies, and work. We need to deepen our awareness of students' experiences and leverage trauma-informed practices to support the complete development of each and every young person. In order for CMC to strive towards its mission, schools must be places that are safe for all students. This means rooting out all forms of institutional violence, particularly those policies that, whether by intent or practice, inflict disproportionate harm on any group.

As mathematics educators, we can:

- ✓ **Work on ourselves.** Engage in self-reflection about our beliefs, practices, and biases. Recognize that this is a growth area for all of us.
- ✓ **Listen empathetically.** Start conversations with others to deepen our understanding by learning about others' perspectives and experiences.
- ✓ **Support allyship.** For those who are allies, be prepared and educated to engage in and facilitate uncomfortable conversations about race and racism in classrooms, in workspaces, and in your social circles.

- ✓ **Know that each student has strengths.** Focus on highlighting the strengths each student comes to us with, while supporting new strengths to emerge.
- ✓ **Be an advocate.** Interrupt and disrupt situations that compromise the humanity of another person, especially students.
- ✓ **Empower students.** Use mathematics as a way to examine and bring light to inequities and empower students to be part of the discourse.
- ✓ **Remove barriers.** Ensure that the opportunities for all children are amplified, not diminished by school, and in particular, mathematics. Create safe and brave spaces where students can be their best selves.

Together, we can make a difference. To do so, we each need to consider the following questions: How will I engage in this work personally, in my classroom, in my community, and as a member of my school and district? How can I help CMC as an organization continue to grow?

CMC stands in solidarity with the Black community against all acts of racism, hatred, and prejudice. In addition, we offer resources online (bit.ly/CMCAntiRacismResources) for educators and families to seek a greater understanding of systemic racism and its impacts as well as ways to support students' responses to what they are witnessing.

Together in solidarity,
The CMC State Board 🏠



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