

# Statement by the Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education on the Killing of George Floyd

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**June 2, 2020**

George Floyd. Ahmaud Aubrey. Breonna Taylor. The most recent names in a long line of black men and women killed as a result of the color of their skin.

In our country, across all states and in all cities, we have a crisis of institutionalized and systemic racism that is the direct result of centuries of race-based inequity and injustice. Cincinnati is no exception. It plays out across all aspects of life for people of color regardless of income or socio-economic background.

To be clear, this is not past tense. It is the reality today. And it is why, in 2016, the CPS Board of Education passed Board Policy 2255, focused on Equity and Excellence, and re-committed this school year to racial equity through our strategic plan, including:

- Eliminating District and school-level policies, programs, operations, and practices that are not integrated with the principles of equity and inclusion, and
- Decreasing racial disparities in discipline rates, economic advantages, Students with Disabilities identification, Advanced Placement, gifted and enrichment services, athletics, arts, and extracurricular activities.

In the face of continued abhorrent acts of racial violence across our country, we vow to redouble our efforts to ensure racial justice is at the center of everything we do.

Our schools must be safe havens where all children are heard, respected and nurtured, can achieve and grow, and are guaranteed equity and justice.