

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Washington State PTA Stands with All Advocates to Address Inequities

Tacoma, WA (June 1, 2020): “Together, National PTA and our state constituents and their members, know the value of every child. We are committed to ensuring our mission – To make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. PTA has never lost sight of its transcendent goal: to change the lives of children across the nation and around the world for better. We encourage PTA members everywhere to speak out for every child.” stated National PTA President Leslie Boggs.

Today Washington State PTA recognizes and acknowledges that all children are affected by the wrongful deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor. These are just the most recent faces to add to a long history of abuse and inequity in our country.

At Washington State PTA, we believe strongly in equity, justice, respect, and inclusion. As a diverse statewide organization focused on the well-being of all children, we have an opportunity to support conversations at home and in our school communities that will lead to anti-racist cultures in our educational system. Home is often the best place to initiate uncomfortable, but critical conversations about our respective identities and implicit biases. These can lead to discussions about how we can improve or remove the gaps in opportunities, achievement, and experiences that are the realities faced by many students and families every day.

We will continue our advocacy for all children, and we welcome all voices. We recognize that, even as we advocate for racial equity, we need to learn and evolve. When we know better, we can do better. We invite you to join us in the conversation.

Washington State PTA President Janice Kutzera shares her feelings, “Washington State PTA’s vision is that every child’s potential becomes a reality. This can only happen in a just society that places equal value on every person’s well-being, education, and safety. Every child means just that, *every child*. As a society, we must do better.”

About Washington State PTA: Washington State PTA is the state’s oldest and largest child advocacy organization founded in 1905 by Abby Williams Hill of Tacoma, an artist who saw the need for an organization to support Washington’s children. Thanks to her leadership and vision—and current members who continue to carry her vision forward—Washington State PTA has been a leading voice for children in Washington for more than 110 years. To learn more about the Washington State PTA, please visit www.wastatepta.org.

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