



NAACP

Main Line Branch

OFFICERS

Diana Robertson, *President*
Rev. Virginia Pollard, *Vice President*
Brian Jason Turner, *Secretary*
Anita Friday, Esq., *Asst. Secretary*
Ronald Williford, *Treasurer*
Carol Wallace, *Asst. Treasurer*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Juliet Jeter
Jamil Reese
Dr. Candace Robertson-James
Adrian Seltzer
Alex Tavengar
Craig Whitney

September 29, 2020

Mr. Richard Gusick
Superintendent
Tredyffrin/Easttown School District
940 West Valley Road, Suite 1700
Wayne, PA 19087

The NAACP is an organization that since 1909 has as its mission to “ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.” Since 1929, the Main Line Branch has been organized to carry out this same mission on the Main Line. Therefore, looking at ways to dismantle systemic racism or policies and/or systems of inequity has not only been our ongoing plight, but through our expertise know the process necessary to achieve those goals if the leadership truly desires to do so.

It is the understanding that **Resolution on District Equity Statement** is part of the agenda for consideration for passage by the School Board this evening, The NAACP Main Line Branch which among other Main Line school districts, the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District falls within its jurisdiction. After reading the proposed Resolution on District Equity Statement, the NAACP Main Line Branch fully supports this resolution as expressing an understanding as to what is needed to begin the process of providing a remedy to systemic racism.

The branch supports this statement for the following reasons:

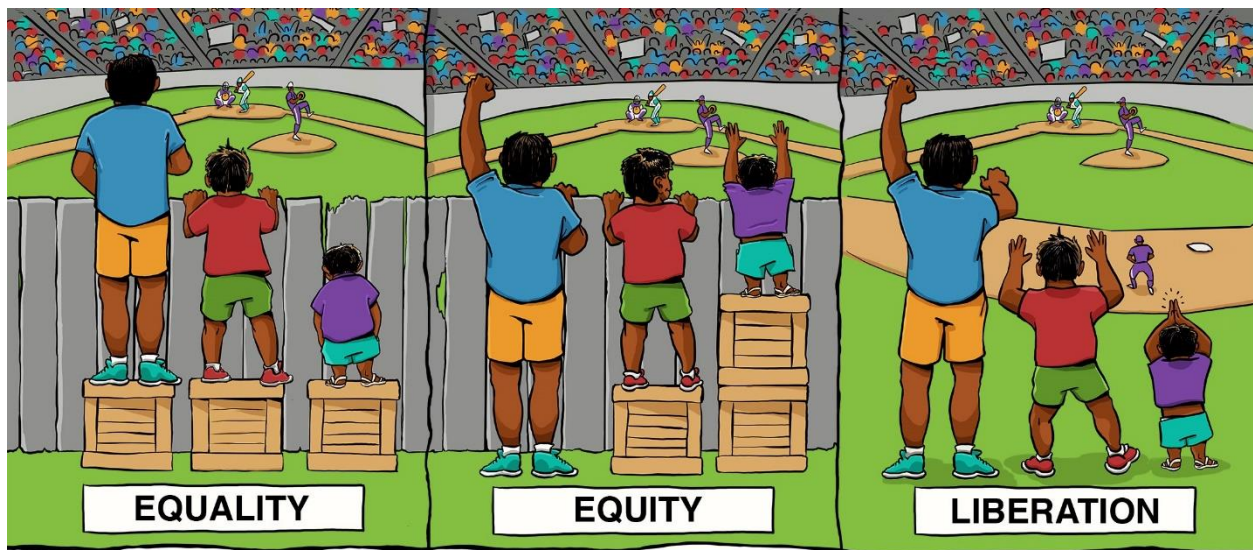
1. There is a huge difference between equity and equality. Equality means that everyone gets the same thing. For this to be satisfactory, the assumption is that everyone has the same needs, the same experiences, the same advantages and is beginning at the same place.

2. However, equity responds to the difference in needs based on systemic barriers for which someone is trying to overcome. The barriers could be disabilities, imposed assumptions because of race, a lack of understanding of cultural differences from professional staff and just out right racism.
3. The approach included in the Resolution regarding anti-racism is consistent with liberation and social justice efforts which seek to completely remove the existing structural barriers.

To acknowledge in this Resolution that *“it is the role and responsibility of the entire Tredyffrin/Easttown School District, at every level, to dismantle and abolish any structure or system that unjustly discriminates against fellow members of our community”* is where the district must start.

Please know that the NAACP Main Line Branch looks forward to partnering with you as you pursue your goals in eliminating racial barriers from the equation of providing an equitable learning experience. *“Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction.”* Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The image below clearly illustrates what we should all desire to accomplish in a school system.



the4thbox.com



Interaction Institute
for Social Change



Sincerely,

Diana Robertson
President
naacpmlbranch@gmail.com
215-605-5327

Cc: School Board Directors