



DRAFT Resolution Number 20/21-01
Recognizing
The Fight Against Racial Inequity and Injustice
And Defining Our Commitment to Equity Work

WHEREAS, the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Administrators of California, feels a collective sense of frustration and sorrow over recent events that have again highlighted the racial bias, hatred, violence, and discrimination experienced by the Black community; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of the very public deaths of George Floyd and countless others, this Association did publish a strong statement condemning unnecessary police violence in which we acknowledged the pain, helplessness, and anger many are also feeling; and

WHEREAS, this Association holds equity, tolerance, respect, and justice as a few of its core values, and SELPA leaders work to ensure anti-racism is explicitly and implicitly embedded in our schools, communities, and relationships; and

WHEREAS, we believe it is our moral duty as educators to recognize racism, name it for what it is, and be courageous in honest conversations with our students, families, and colleagues about fighting racism, injustice, and inequality; and

WHEREAS, we explicitly acknowledge that the lives of our Black children are exponentially impacted by institutional racism and discrimination, which must be stopped, we also know that all children matter, and that inequity and injustice experienced by other traditionally marginalized groups including other people of color, English learners, LGBTQ+ students, and students impacted by poverty, must also be stopped; and

WHEREAS, SELPA leaders have in this moment openly committed to respond with boldness and conviction in addressing systemic bias and institutional racism, and to engage in work that provides access, creates opportunities, and focuses on inclusion for all children; and

WHEREAS, as educational leaders, we believe it is our responsibility to lead the work for social justice, we further recognize that to bring about true and sustainable change, our Association membership must itself work toward positive transformation by creating opportunities for learning, reflection, and impactful dialogue among its members; and

WHEREAS, now is the time for us to challenge ourselves in applying a more conscious cultural and equity lens to the work of our Association, through its various committees and

partnerships, while utilizing a growth mindset and demonstrating sincere respect for the knowledge and experience of each member of our Association:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the SELPA Administrators of California hereby adopts Resolution Number 20/21-01 to create new norms, policies, practices, and expectations for our officers, committees, and partners, so that we may actively and with intention address equity and social justice as we strive to improve the educational experiences of all students.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in September, 2020 at the regular meeting of the SELPA Administrators of California.