NATIONAL CALL FOR MORAL REVIVAL

In 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and many others called for a “revolution of values” in America and sought to build a broad movement that could unite poor and dispossessed communities across the country. Today, the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival has picked up this work. People across the nation have joined under the banner of the campaign to confront the interlocking evils of systemic racism, poverty, climate change and ecological devastation, militarism and the war economy, and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism. For more information go to AFT.

“Be the Change You Wish to See in the World.” - Gandhi

FEA STATEMENT REGARDING THE SENSELESS AND BRUTAL MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD

“We cannot miss the moment and cannot look a system in the face and simply call for a tranquilizing drug of gradualism. America was and is a bold experiment. But she will not be OK on her own,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Florida Education Association recognizes the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers as an unspeakable tragedy. Sadly, police brutality against the Black community has been an ever-present occurrence; these are NOT isolated incidents. It is becoming increasingly painful as we continue to view, much too often, videos of inhumane treatment of Black men, and an increasing number of Black women.

The uprisings and protests taking place in Minneapolis and other locations across this country, including the state of Florida are a result of the anger, fear, sadness, and distrust that have manifested for years throughout our communities.

Further, the Florida Education Association stands in solidarity with our sister union Education Minnesota and their local affiliates the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers and Educational Support Professionals Local 59 as they call for systemic and structural change of the Minnesota Police Force and justice for George Floyd.

“I was saddened and dismayed to witness the murder of George Floyd, but I am heartened because people recognize that we cannot normalize this behavior from law enforcement and more importantly that this will not be tolerated in a civilized society. Systemic change is within our grasp if we unify our voices, keep insisting that structural change happen, vote, and believe that humanity and dignity is due to every person regardless of race, creed, or background”, says FEA President Fedrick Ingram.

The Florida Education Association does not condone violence or unlawful activity of any kind, but we do encourage our members to give our full voices to our democracy and exercise our right to peacefully protest, demonstrate and speak out against injustice. Civic engagement and quality public education are at the core of our beliefs and values. As education professionals, we will continue to call out injustices when these values are compromised.

-Fedrick Ingram, President, Florida Education Association
RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS

The FLDOE expects all Prek-12 schools to reopen in August at “full capacity” yet cedes reopening plans and decisions to the districts. Commissioner Corcoran said, “We want all schools fully opened in the fall because there is no better way to educate our children than to have that teacher in front of that child.” We certainly agree with that. But FEA, our members and parents have been clear: safety and the health of Florida’s children, and their families should always come first. The Governor announced this as a resurgence of new Covid-19 cases continue to rise in our state. We find little comfort from this announcement and wonder if Florida’s elected leaders are keeping our students, our educators, and the communities we serve as a first priority.

SOCIAL MEDIA

“SAY IT FORGET IT, WRITE IT REGRET IT, POST IT AND THE WHOLE WORLD WILL OWN IT.”