

Superintendent  
Patrick C. Miller, Ed.D.



Board Members  
Patricia Lee Adams, Chairman  
Joe Smith, Vice Chairman  
Jasper Barfield, Jr.  
Leisa Edwards Batts  
Tina W. Murphy

**301 Kingold Boulevard  
Snow Hill, NC 28580**

---

Over the past three months, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting harm to the economy have been devastating. However, these events have been overshadowed by the racial division exacerbated by the murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and others. I am saddened by these losses and deeply disturbed by the systemic racism that continues to plague our country.

As the leader of Greene County Schools, I have been slow to recognize that my silence has sent an unintended message and for that, I am sorry. There are students and staff in our school system who have experienced a wide range of emotions, from sadness to frustration and rage, as a result of these racist incidents and we need to work to support them with kindness and compassion.

These tragic events reinforce that Greene County Schools still has much work to do to create more inclusive environments for our students and staff. Our classrooms serve a purpose much greater than simply coursework. They help us recognize, understand, and appreciate our differences. Educators must continue to teach our students about our country's struggle to ensure there is liberty and justice for all.

To assist me in this endeavor, I plan to create a task force made up of key faith-based and community leaders to advise my team and me as to how Greene County Schools can improve the culture of the schools and better support its students and staff of color. I believe we can be better educators when we acknowledge and understand that racism and implicit biases are real and require effort to recognize and overcome. I ask that we begin this work now: everyone versus racism!

Today, I am asking that we as a community join together to end racism. Greene County Schools will not tolerate hate, violence, or discrimination of any kind. I often describe our school system as one big family – please join me in the work to ensure that everyone feels a part of that family. I will double down on the commitment to make our schools safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for all. All of us must be courageous enough to address these issues now so that perhaps, the next generation will not have to.

To our African American students and staff: The principals, district administrators, and I see you and support you. We, the administration of Greene County Schools, stand in solidarity with you. Black lives matter. All of us are Greene County Schools and we stand together.

Respectfully,

Dr. Patrick C. Miller  
Superintendent