



# VERMONT SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION

Dear Fellow School Counselors and Colleagues,

We write to you today to express our sadness and to condemn the hate and violence that has occurred and continues to occur in our country toward the Black community. We acknowledge the existence of systemic racism and oppression that directly affects the Black community. We show our support for and solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and those who have taken peaceful or non-violent action nationwide following the murder of George Floyd.

VTSCA does not condone racism, hate, or discrimination in any form. We will continue to lead, advocate, collaborate, and push systemic change on behalf of all school counselors, students, and school communities. In addition, we are committed to taking action in the following ways:

- Working with liaisons to the VTSCA board to prioritize the needs and advocate on behalf of Vermont school counselors and students who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
- Amplifying voices of the BIPOC school counseling community which will include collaboration on professional and personal development opportunities such as the VTSCA Annual Conference.
- Recommend justice-based readings and video lists to our members
- Honor social justice warriors in the school counseling field who are dedicated to ending systemic racism and oppression

Still, we encourage each and every one of our members to speak up, pay attention, listen to the voices who have lived this experience, be vulnerable in your own learning, and take action. Now more than ever, we must support and care for one another. It may be hard, but it will be worth it because Black Lives Matter.

For those members seeking support during this time, please reach out to us directly at [vtzca.president@gmail.com](mailto:vtzca.president@gmail.com)

Sincerely,

The VTSCA Board

For more information, ASCA has released an [Anti-racism Statement](#) and posted [Race and Equity Resources](#). All are accessible directly from the ASCA Homepage.