

August 24, 2017

Dear Members of the Rowan University College of Education Community,

As the administrative leadership team of Rowan University's College of Education, we are responding to the increase in public displays of hatred and racism, as evidenced in Charlottesville, Virginia and many other cities across our nation in recent weeks- and, we also acknowledge the powerful representation of people who stand against such hatred and bigotry, as seen in marches in so many major cities the past week. We reiterate our commitment to inclusion, diversity, social justice, and equity. The College of Education is the foundation of Rowan University. We began, and remain, dedicated to preparing educators for ALL learners. Anti-Semitism, racism, bigotry, and white supremacy are antithetical to our core values and beliefs.

Our College prepares educators from diverse backgrounds as well as provides services and supports to local P-16 entities with diverse constituencies. We strive to live out our vision to be a leading force in preparing and supporting reflective practitioners who use education to transform our global society. In order to realize our vision, we must ensure our College is a safe and supportive environment.

This year the College of Education is asking the question, "What does a College of Education focused on social justice and equity look like?" We will engage in intentional and meaningful discussions that will result in reexamining our curricula and experiences, policies and practices, and engaging in professional development opportunities. We look forward to developing a model for schools and colleges of education across the country.

During these difficult and challenging times, please know that our College remains steadfast in asserting our commitment to social justice. We seek to be inclusive rather than divisive, advocate rather than antagonize, and honor our collective contributions to our community rather than disrespect valued members of our community.

We look forward to the upcoming academic year, which will bring a fresh opportunity to engage in meaningful work in addressing the most vexing issues facing public education. We hope we can count on your support.

Sincerely,

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Dean

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Executive Director of Educator Support and Partnerships

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