

**A Resolution  
of the  
Board of Education of Queen Anne's County**

February 2, 2022

**SOCIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of Queen Anne's County Public Schools is committed to promoting the worth and dignity of all *individuals* (Policy 103), the Board will not tolerate or condone any act of bias, discrimination, insensitivity, or disrespect toward any person on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, age, religion, disability, genetics, ancestry/national origin, marital status, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or other legally or constitutionally protected attributes or affiliations. (Id., and Regulation 103.1), and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with section 7-105(a) of the Maryland Education Article, the Board of Education is obligated to instill in our students "the love of freedom and democracy, shown in the devotion of all true and patriotic Americans to their flag and county;" and

**WHEREAS**, the authentic founding principles of the United States and the United States Constitution include individual freedom, liberty, justice and equality under the law, and

**WHEREAS**, "Social Justice" is a vaguely defined amalgam of various critical and critical legal theories that contemplate the "redistribution of wealth, resources, and power in a society," and whose "most direct philosophical antecedent is critical Marxism" (Prof. Jonathan Turley, Northwestern University Law Review), and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy for the distribution of wealth, status, power, and other resources within a nation or society, whether through taxation, legislation, or other methods, are inherently political issues and serve as the primary motivation behind all political activity, and

**WHEREAS**, the promotion of the tenants of social justice theory and its applications is an inherently political activity, and

**WHEREAS**, sections 1-301 And 1-304 of the Maryland Local Government Article, restrict county employees from "engag[ing] in political activity while on the job during working hours."

**WHEREAS**, activism is "a practice that emphasizes direct vigorous action, especially in support of or opposition to one side of a controversial issue" (Merriam Webster), and

**WHEREAS**, true education is not activism or political action itself but rather intellectual preparation for the student's success in life, and

**WHEREAS**, the Queen Anne’s County Board of Education values and promotes honest and healthy research, debate, dialogue, and the right of students to express differing opinions, foster and defend intellectual honesty, engage in freedom of inquiry, and honor freedom of speech as required by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and that both students and educators should be encouraged to engage in the free marketplace of ideas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The Board of Education for Queen Anne’s County:

1. Affirms that Education in Queen Anne’s County should reflect our fundamental values as a county, those of our State and our Nation, to wit: individual freedom, justice, and equality under the law, and the true potential inherent in every individual regardless of their social group identity,
2. Affirms that we will continue making decisions affecting K-12 public education based on the best interests of all students regardless of their race, sex, religion, socio-economic status or other characteristics, and that our sole focus remains that of providing the highest quality education to every child in our school system,
3. Affirms that we will not support or impart any K-12 public education resources or standards which profess as superior a particular social or political party, ideology, or theory including social justice platforms such as “economic justice,” “racial justice,” “environmental justice,” or the socio-political tenants of Marxism or neo-Marxism, including the promotion of Collectivism, which are contrary to the authentic founding principles of the United States, to wit: individual freedom, liberty, and justice and equality under the law,
4. Believes teachers, administrators, or other employees in our school district, ***shall not*** make use of, standards, lesson plans, instructional materials, or instructional practices that serve to inculcate in students the following concepts:
  - (a) that an individual and his or her interests should be subservient to the desires of a collective, community, or their representatives,
  - (b) that individual rights as enumerated in the United States Constitution and laws are subservient or secondary to the desires of the collective, community, or their representatives,
  - (c) that meritocracy or individual traits such as a hard work ethic are racist, sexist, oppressive, or meant to benefit an oppressor or “privileged” group, or were created by members of a particular “identity group” to oppress members of another “identity group,”
  - (d) that an individual's moral standing, worth or lack thereof is necessarily determined by his or her membership in any “identity group” or socio-economic class,

5. Believes that no teacher should intentionally influence a student to take a particular stand or viewpoint on any public policy, political, or social issue,

6. Believes that teachers who discuss public policy or controversial social issues shall, to the best of their ability, strive to explore such issues from diverse and contending perspectives, without providing leading or suggestive outcomes, and allowing the student to learn, think critically, and present his or her position without bias,

7. Requests that the Superintendent of Schools submit to the proper policy committee to develop through the policy and regulation development process, a policy reflecting the above affirmations consistent with State and Federal laws.

**DONE** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

For the Queen Anne's County Board of Education:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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Vice President

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