FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS CALLS FOR SWIFT ACTION ADDRESSING RACISM IN CEDAR FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Everyday parents/guardians in the Cedar Falls School District are comforting their children/students after being forced to unpack the commonly seen and experienced racism within the district. After recent events and listening to our youth cry out and share the many truths that go on frequently, it is time that we confront and work to dismantle the systems that perpetuate the racial trauma experienced by our children and students and subsequently our families.

Given the nature of these incidents, we hereby demand the following:

1.  Cedar Falls School District will infuse 1619 or fully inclusive curriculum.

2.  Cedar Falls School District will develop a notification system for parents/guardians for each report of and/or act of racial discrimination.

3.  Every act of racial discrimination thus far HAS been, and all future acts WILL be, according to IA Code, qualified as bullying.

Cedar Falls School District will investigate, report, and discipline it as such.

Disciplinary protocol will be increased until it is effective.

4.  Cedar Falls School District will develop a tracking system to monitor:

incidents of racial discrimination

how they were addressed

improvement or decline within the school system

and will make this data available to parents/guardians of students, and to the public.

5.   Cedar Falls School District will enter a paid contract with one or more trained and licensed mental health specialists, who have expertise in treating racial trauma, and will cover 100% costs to provide and offer this service to all BIPOC students.

We are requiring/requesting these actionable outcomes be met with urgency and effort. We expect implementation of the above by March 22, 2021. We expect to see documentation of Cedar Falls School District’s timeline, and their action plan to fully implement the above.

We have a list of families who will otherwise be withdrawing from the CFSD.