

## **RESOLUTION OF THE HAMDEN DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE**

### **RE: THE UTILIZATION OF SKILL SETS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEES FOR THE BENEFIT OF HAMDEN STUDENTS**

DATED: July 28, 2020

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the Hamden Democratic Town Committee is to endorse qualified candidates to serve in elected office; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamden Democratic Town Committee seeks to balance the qualifications and experiences of endorsed democrats with the varied responsibilities of running a large, diverse school district; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamden Board of Education has acknowledged the need for more black teachers and a culturally responsive curriculum; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamden Board of Education is in the process of redistricting the entire district for the first time in a generation. Church St School was first recognized as racially imbalanced in 2012; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamden School District has an expulsion/suspension rate of 16.2% for black students; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamden Board of Education has committed to equity by establishing an equity committee and funding equity initiatives in the school budget.

#### **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

- 1. The Hamden Democratic Town Committee will support Board of Education members whose mission is to hire more black teachers, create a culturally responsive curriculum, and eliminate bias in discipline.** The Board of Education needs to improve the district's profile. The Hamden Board of Education must implement a student-teacher pipeline to create a roadmap to education. Improvement in student outcomes will be achieved when black students see themselves in their educational experience. [Hamden School District Students](#)

2. **The chair of the Board of Education should utilize skill sets of members when making committee assignments.** Members who have expertise in finance should be appointed to the finance committee. Members with a degree in engineering or a background in mechanical systems should be appointed to operations. Members with expertise in writing, teaching, examining, approving, or vetting curriculum should be appointed to the curriculum committee. This logical utilization is to the benefit of all students and staff who are affected by the decisions of the Board of Education.
3. **Black Board of Education Members, teachers, and community members especially those with experience in writing, evaluating, and approving curricula, should always be members of the curriculum committee and integral in the development and approving of all curricula.** In order to achieve equity in the curriculum, it is important to have a perspective from black members, especially those with experience in writing, teaching, examining, approving, or vetting curriculum. Members of the Board of Education who are not qualified to teach, write, examine, approve, or vet curriculum should not be given priority over more qualified members. The curriculum committee should always have black leadership, especially those with curricular experience to avoid causing harm. [Ending Curriculum Violence](#)
4. **The Hamden Board of Education needs to redistrict to racially desegregate our public schools.** The burden of racial balance should not be placed on Black and Brown students to move into a white neighborhood. All students from all neighborhoods should help to achieve balance. Race needs to be the determining factor, not socioeconomic status.