



THE MERIDIAN SCHOOL

The Meridian School stands in solidarity with those who fight for racial and social justice. We reject prejudice and any oppression of people of color, the LGBTQ community, people with disabilities, and other communities experiencing discrimination due to their identity. We stand for equity and inclusion. We encourage and empower our community to take action.

At this time, we are taking a stand with black communities who are organizing and protesting an accumulation of racist violence and injustice. We commit to listen, study, educate, volunteer, donate, speak up, and be active advocates of Black Lives Matter.

This statement is in alignment to Meridian's values, mission, and commitments in our [Equity and Inclusion Statement](#). Our Meridian Cares approach and Global Citizenship Framework guide our educational philosophy. We believe that the challenges of our world require culturally competent, critically thinking individuals who are empowered to inquire, investigate, innovate, and impact their communities. We aim to foster an inclusive and safe learning environment where students see themselves and learn about others' identities in a positive and authentic way, recognize injustice, and are empowered to take action.

How Meridian will take action:

We will continue to implement our equity and inclusion strategies at institutional, programmatic, and community levels based on the school's [Equity and Inclusion Plan](#). Previously, Meridian has committed to:

- Revising the school's curricular approach to the representation of the history and current experiences of African Americans and other people of color, as well as other marginalized identities including the LGBTQ community and people with disabilities, among others. Our aim is to affirm those identities and highlight these groups' journeys to freedom and justice.
- Analyzing the scope and alignment of identity units.
- Continuing to engage the entire school community (and beyond) in education to fight systemic racism and discrimination against people based on their identities.

In addition, we now pledge to grow the Black Lives Matter movement for racial justice through ongoing education. See more information and resources below:

- See 13 Principles of Black Lives Matter in [kid-friendly language](#).
- Learn about [Black Lives Matter at School](#).
- See a [PDF](#) of Meridian's Black Lives Matter/ George Floyd presentation at FMM and read our [letter to parents](#).

Resources for Meridian's Community to Fight Systemic Racism

Listen, Study, and Be an Ally

[Scaffolding Anti-Racism Resources](#)

Videos: "[Rodney speaks on the morning of May 31, 2020](#)" by Rodney Glasgow

"[Dear Child: When Black Parents Have to Give 'The Talk'](#)"

"[Why Cities Are Still So Segregated](#)" from "Let's Talk" on NPR

"[George Floyd, Minneapolis Protests, Ahmaud Arbery & Amy Cooper](#)" on "The Daily Social Distancing Show" by Trevor Noah

Books for Adults

[So You Want to Talk About Race](#) by Ijeoma Oluo

[White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People To Talk About Racism](#) by Robin DiAngelo, PhD

[Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome](#) by Joy DeGruy

Additional Books for Educators

"[Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?](#)" by Dr. Beverly Tatum

[Lies My Teacher Told Me](#) by James Loewen

A People's History of the United States by Howard Zinn ([read online](#) or [visit website](#))

[A Young People's History of the United States](#) by Howard Zinn

[The Guide for White Women Who Teach Black Boys](#) by Eddie Moore

Books for Children

[100 Must-Read Children's Books by African-American creators](#)

Workshops and Conferences

[Internalized Sexism and White Privilege: A Workshop for White Women](#) by Cultures Connecting Seattle

[NAIS People of Color Conference](#) for Independent Schools

[CARLE Institute for White Teachers in Independent Schools](#)

[White Privilege Conference](#), open to all

[The National SEED Project](#) for educators

Educate

"[Talking With Children and Youth About Race](#)" by Cultures Connecting

"[Talk About Racism](#)" article in The Washington Post

[Acting Against Systemic Racism](#) on Meridian's website, with a list of anti-bias books

[Black Lives Matter at School—Resources](#) for classrooms

"[Black Minds Matter](#)" by Coshandra Dillard for Teaching Tolerance

"[Why Teaching Black Lives Matter Matters, Part I](#)" by Jamilah Pitts for Teaching Tolerance

[Teaching Hard History in Grades K-5](#) by Teaching Tolerance

"[1619](#)" [podcast](#) by The New York Times

Donate to Black Organizations

[Black Lives Matter Seattle Freedom Fund](#): The funds collected will go to the immediate release of people protesting the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Manuel Ellis in Seattle and King County

[Black Lives Matter](#)

Amplify Black Voices and Leadership

Sign petition at [Movement for Black Lives](#)

"[26 Ways To Be in the Struggle: Beyond the Streets](#)"