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Dear members,

In recent weeks we have witnessed a handful of race-based statements and actions by Oregon school board members that are simply intolerable. This includes incidents at districts of varying sizes. Whether these incidents were intentional or not, we want to be clear in our commitment to inclusive and welcoming environments.

As elected officials, school board members need to be leaders in identifying and eliminating racism. We encourage all school boards to adopt a resolution that recognizes and rejects racism and hate speech in our schools.

[See sample resolution here](#)

As leaders in our communities engaged in children's education, it is critical that respectful forethought precede all we do and say. The students we serve look to us to represent the values that our communities stand for. The vision and goals of the districts, ESDs and community colleges we serve must remain paramount in our purpose.

We are defined by what we say and do. It is imperative that we set an example that is worthy of our children. We call upon you to reject racism in any form and to stand up for what is right.

Best regards,

Kevin Cassidy

*President, OSBA Board of Directors (Baker School Board)*

Bill Graupp

*President, Oregon School Board Members of Color Caucus (Member of OSBA Board of Directors and North Marion School Board)*

Jim Green

*Executive director, OSBA*

