



August 19, 2019

Dear State College Friends School Community,

I am sharing with you a message from the Friends Council on Education in light of the current social and political climate. All Heads of School involved in the council were requested to share this statement with our school's educators for their support and then to "sign on" if so moved. As you are able to see, we did sign on to the statement. Over our inservice time, we will be discussing ways that we will be able to keep the spirit of this powerful position statement alive and how to actualize it in our school and community.

Yours in Peace and Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial letter.



**Friends Council on Education Statement
August 2019**

Quaker Schools Stand for Peace, Justice, Respect, and Social Action

The summer of 2019 has been a difficult one in our nation. From the humanitarian crisis at our southern border to the escalation of xenophobic, racist language from the current administration to the mass shootings on the first weekend in August, we are witnessing an uptick in violence and expressions of hatred and bigotry.

Quaker education is directly opposed to violence and to the violent expressions of hatred, racism, white supremacy, and xenophobia. Quaker schools are committed to teaching students habits of heart and mind, the foundation of which is a culture of openness and respect for every member of our community regardless of race, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, place of national origin, gender identity or gender expression.

Friends schools are filled with educational leaders and individuals who recognize the spirituality and sacredness of every human being. We must use the power of our belief in the inherent value of each human being – the Light within – and the Quaker practice of silent reflection to propel us to action and to stand as witnesses against acts of violence, racism, hatred, intolerance, and xenophobia. We must assert that this dehumanization will not be tolerated in our schools or in our society at large. We must speak up to condemn this violence whether it comes through words or actions.

Friends Council on Education affirms that Quaker schools stand for equality, integrity, and the rigorous search for truth. We mourn the senseless loss of life and we call on our schools to renew our collective commitment to actively working for peace and justice. Let us affirm the conviction that all life is sacred and deserving of our deepest respect, and our commitment to creating a society that truly embraces our most cherished ideals. Let us join together as we strive to build peace and humanity in the world, seeking justice and equity for all.

Friends Council on Education

Drew Smith, Executive Director
Deborra Sines Pancoe, Associate Director
Betsy Torg, Director of Development and Communications
April Diop, Office Manager, Tech Coordinator

Liza Ewen, Acting Head of School, Friends School Haverford (PA)
Matthew H. Bradley, Head of School, Friends School Mullica Hill (NJ)
Crissy Cáceres, Head of School, Brooklyn Friends School (NY)
Mike Hanas, FCE Board, Head of School, San Francisco Friends School (CA)
Brenda Esch, Head of School, Friends School of Wilmington (NC)
Bryan Garman, Head of School, Sidwell Friends School (DC)
James Clay, FCE Board, Former Head of School, School for Friends (MD)
Whitney Thompson, FCE Board, Head of School, Tandem Friends School (VA)
Mara Y. Nicasro, Head of School, Friends Meeting School (MD)
Darrell Cotton, Head of School, High Point Friends School (NC)
Rebecca Zug, FCE Board, Head of Upper School, Wilmington Friends School (DE)
Donnan Stoicovy, Head of School, State College Friends School (PA)
Tom Gibian, Head of School, Sandy Spring Friends School (MD)
Kim Freedman, Head of School, New Garden Friends School (NC)
Angela DeGraff, Interim Head of School, Princeton Friends School (NJ)
Kathryn Park Cook, Head of School, Frankford Friends School (PA)
Margaret Haviland, Head of School, Westfield Friends School (NJ)
Nancy Donnelly, Head of School, United Friends School (PA)
Jenny Rowe, Head of School, Friends School of Portland (ME)
Craig N. Sellers, Head of School, Friends' Central School (PA)
Daena Berdough, Head of School, Gwynedd Friends School (PA)
Jill Dougherty, Head of School, Stratford Friends School (PA)
Wilson Felter, FCE Board, Director of Middle School, William Penn Charter School (PA)
Robert (Bo) Lauder, Principal/Head of School, Friends Seminary (NY)
Michael Barclay, Head of School, Virginia Beach Friends School (VA)
Kirk Smothers, FCE Board, Head of School, Delaware Valley Friends School (PA)
Ed Marshall, Head of School, Greene Street Friends School (PA)
W. Earl Sissell, FCE Board, Former Head of School, Media-Providence Friends School (PA)
Dana Weeks, FCE Board, Head of School, Germantown Friends School (PA)
Toni Graves Williamson, FCE Board, Director of Equity & Inclusion, Friends Select School (PA)
Chris Kimberly, FCE Board, Associate Head of School, Moorestown Friends School (NJ)
Julia de la Torre, Head of School, Moorestown Friends School (NJ)
Rich Nourie, Head of School, Abington Friends School (PA)
Michael Gary, Head of School, Friends Select School (PA)
Madeleine Beresford, Friends Neighborhood Nursery School (NJ)
Darryl J. Ford, Head of School, William Penn Charter School (PA)
Tori Jueds, Head of School, Westtown School (PA)
Matt Micciche, FCE Board, Head of School, Friends School of Baltimore (MD)
Ken Aldridge, Head of School, Wilmington Friends School (DE)
Matt Glendinning, FCE Board, Head of School, Moses Brown School (RI)
Sisi Kamal, FCE Board, CFO/COO, Friends Seminary
John Baird, FCE Board, Former Head of Westtown School, Carolina Friends School
Karen Carney, Head of School, Chicago Friends School (IL)
Dana H. Harrison, Head of School, Newtown Friends School

Kath Houlahan, Director, Oak Lane Day Care (PA)
Angela G. Garcia, Head of School, Friends Community School (MD)
Marcie D. Roberts, Head of School, Richmond Friends School (IN)
Shu Shu Costa, FCE Board, Director of Admissions, Moorestown Friends School (NJ)
Berna Artis, Head of School, School for Friends, Washington, DC
Beth Frattali, Head of School, Greenwood Friends School, Millville, PA
J. Samuel Houser, George School, Newtown, PA
Pam Chambers, Head of School, Wichita Friends School, Wichita, KS
Brenda C. Crawley, Head of School, Plymouth Meeting Friends School, PA
Waman French, Head of School, The Friends School of Atlanta (GA)
Alex Brosowsky Head of School, The Quaker School at Horsham (PA)
Nicholas Maldonado, Assistant Clerk, Arthur Morgan School (NC)
Lee Payton, FCE Board, Assistant Director of Upper School, William Penn Charter School (PA)
Karen Cumberbatch, FCE Board, Head of School, Carolina Friends School