

July 7, 2025

Dear School Board Directors,

We, the NAACP Youth Council, would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued partnership as we've endeavored to elevate student voices in the superintendent search process. Your commitment to ensuring that students are heard in pivotal decisions like this one means a great deal to us.

As we look ahead, we want to voice our strong support for the inclusion of mock elections in SPS' 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. We believe this initiative is vital, and we hope the next superintendent appointed will champion it wholeheartedly.

One of our core demands is to increase the voice of youth, especially BIPOC youth, in decision-making at all levels of public education. We work to empower young people to speak their truth and advocate for themselves and their peers. Implementing mandatory mock elections is a key way to support that mission. Civic engagement is a critical means for us to have our voices heard, and it's essential that all students are equipped with the knowledge and confidence they need to participate in our democracy. Through mock elections, we can offer students an engaging, hands-on opportunity to become informed, consistent voters and to see themselves as active figures in shaping our communities. It is an essential step to ensure every student knows that they have a seat at the table.

Thank you for your commitment to student empowerment, and we hope you keep this in mind throughout the final stages of the superintendent search process. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to continue the conversation!

Sincerely, The NAACP Youth Council- Washington State 1814 NAACPNYC2@gmail.com