

Fulfilling the Path of Brown



Establishing a National Agenda for Meeting the Promise of Brown v. Board 70 Years Later

Members of the California Association of African American Superintendents & Administrators, the National Coalition on Education Equity, and conference attendees walk the steps at the site of the Brown v. Board of Education ruling of 1954.

The California Association of African American Superintendents and Administrators and the National Coalition on Education Equity convened educators, legislators, policy makers, community leaders, and advocates from across the nation to assess the state of black education in 1954, at the time of the Brown v. Board decision, compared to our current state 70 years after the policy of Separate but Equal was declared unconstitutional.

Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, President/CEO of the Learning Policy Institute and President of the California State Board of Education, and Dr. Na'ilah Nasir, President of the Spencer Foundation, in planning with CAAASA and NCOEE, specified the need for new research on Brown v. Board (1954) and commissioned [nine white papers](#) by twelve renowned researchers. Their profound research was shared at the conference within the sessions and provided in print for all conference attendees.

This work arrives at a time when black children are continuing to face resegregation, economic oppression, and Anti-Black educational legislation. It is this disparity, juxtaposed to the Brown ruling, that makes holding a conference in Washington D.C. in the anniversary month of the decision significant. To address these and other issues faced by the community within K-12 education, the goal of the conference was to develop an actionable plan and set forth a national agenda for the next five years, leading to the 75th Anniversary of the Brown decision in 2029.

The Conference opened on May 22, 2024 with dynamic introductions on this agenda by CAAASA President, Dr. Adam Clark; President and CEO of the Learning Policy Institute, Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond; and President of The Spencer Foundation, Dr. Na'ilah Nasir.



A Conference of Solutions



Following our historic trip to the steps of the Supreme Court, the conference opened with exceptional leaders identifying the impact of Brown v. Board and the state of education for African Americans.

Seven plenary sessions and thirteen workshops were led by highly esteemed educators and leaders from across the country, all of whom share our same vision of improving educational outcomes for black and brown children. Some of the topics for the workshops included:

- School segregation and integration post-Brown
- The importance of Black educators
- Paths to educational equity
- Educational innovation
- Black student success
- Equity in education post-pandemic

Leading the path toward equity in education for Black children and other children of color requires the commitment of all of us in our own capacities as we are facing challenges of a deeply rooted, systemic nature, which the Brown decision began to unlock 70 years ago. Some of our Plenary presenters inspiring us along this path include Dr. Chase Moore, *Special Assistant for the U.S. Dept. of Education*, Lezli Baskerville, *Commissioner, White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans*, Randi Weingarten, *AFT President*, Dr. Gary Orfield, *Co-Director of the Civil Rights Project at UCLA*, Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings, *Researcher & Professor Emerita at Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison*, Dr. Tyrone Howard, *Professor of Education (UCLA) and AERA President*, and Dr. Pedro Noguera, *Dean at USC Rossier School of Education*.



Agency in Action



"If you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have a moral obligation to do something about it" - Rep. John Lewis

A National Community

The vast impact and importance of a National Agenda on Brown v. Board was reflected in the various professional realms of our attendees and the cities they represented. The majority of participants identified as educational advocates, with close to one-third serving as practitioners directly in schools. Another 12% of attendees were educational researchers and 10% were civic leaders. This esteemed group arrived everywhere from Washington, D.C. to Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Chicago, Indianapolis, Fresno, Oakland, Jackson (MS), Rochester, Baltimore, North Carolina, California's Inland Empire, and many more places around the nation.

Results

If you were unable to join us in D.C., please know that 100% of attendee respondents stated they would recommend a future NCOEE/CAAASA conference program to a colleague. In addition, an overwhelming percentage of attendees agreed they received actionable steps and evidence-based resources they could use for improving equity in public education.

We look forward to furthering our agenda as we forge the path for equitable education.

PHOTOS



RESOURCES

For access to conference resources and session information, please visit:
WWW.NCOEE.ORG

For more updates and information from the conference join us online



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www.ncoee.org



www.caaasa.org

Conference Co-Hosts and Supporters

Our co-hosts and partners are the foundation that made this national conference possible and we are forever thankful for their genuine commitment and active support in partnering with us to help make equitable education a lived reality.

A sincere thank you goes to our photographers who captured this historic conference: Gregory Jones ([Gremar Photography](#)) and Chris Valentine ([Design by Valentine LLC](#)).

NCOEE (National Coalition on Education Equity)
CAAASA (California Association of African American Superintendents and Administrators)
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