The Executive Board of the Advocates for Children and Education (ACE) stands firmly with the Black community in their struggle for justice and equality. We are heartbroken and outraged at the recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, and the hundreds of Black people, including children, who are killed by police brutality and racism each year. We strongly believe that Black Lives Matter.

Racism is a systemic and institutionalized issue across the country. It is deeply embedded in education, health, criminal and juvenile justice, workforce discrimination, voting rights, and wealth distribution, issues that have endured across centuries. This injustice is an inexcusable roadblock in the Black community’s pursuit of a life of freedom, dignity, and safety.

We ask that our Advocates and the legal community at large stand in solidarity with the Black community not only in the US but worldwide, and that our fellow student organizations use their platforms to educate, advocate, and support Black voices as we fight against systemic racism moving forward.

Our mission is, and will always be, to advocate fiercely for all children in their pursuit of equal rights and education. In order to accomplish this, it is essential that we become better informed, and that we use our platform to foster dialogue aimed at creating a brighter, more just, future. In our pledge to continue this support and conversation, for years to come, we have decided to create a new event series. Please join ACE in our “Conscious Media Conversations,” where we will read, watch, and listen to media content addressing prevalent issues that act as barriers to equal education for all. We will begin this summer, and we ask that you join us in reading “Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools” written by Black social justice scholar Dr. Monique W. Morris. In the Fall of 2020, we will be hosting an open dialogue to continue the conversation of racial injustice.

To our Black peers, friends, and family, we see you, we hear you, we stand with you. Stay safe, stay strong.

Warm Regards,
The Advocates for Children and Education Team