

## **PAPSA Statement in Support of Equity in Education and Other Societal Institutions**

PAPSA shares our sympathy, regret, and outrage for the recent tragic event that unfolded in Minneapolis as well as to the many others who have fallen victim to the systemic racism and social injustice that has plagued our country for generations. The most recent tragedy has reinforced the need for positive change and societal transformation going forward. As a community, we can and must do better.

As pupil services administrators, we are in a unique position to raise awareness of the need for equitable access to education and community-wide systems and services; to create an environment where all students and their families feel valued, respected, and safe; to take those steps necessary to eradicate inequities, disparities, and discrimination; and to model the way for our students, their parents/guardians, and our communities.

It will take time and sustained commitment to fully achieve meaningful change. Open dialogue, increased awareness and sensitivity, and continued learning will all be key to reversing the ongoing issue of racial injustice. As an organization, we will foster stronger and more empathetic partnerships with other organizations with similar aspirations as we endeavor to provide our members with access to the tools, resources, and knowledge to effectively provide those we serve with the educational and life experiences that they unequivocally deserve, regardless of their race, color, national origin, gender, or religion.