Speak Up
Speak Out
March 1, 2021

BACKPACKS ON
LAPTOPS OPEN
FUTURES BRIGHT!

CPS STUDENTS
SPEAK UP
SPEAK OUT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR LIFE
Shauna Murphy
Assistant Superintendent
Student-Centered Decision Making
Three Key Messages

1. Familiarize Board members with the list of demands
2. Collect feedback and clarify demands
3. Identify a path to move forward, together
Speak Up, Speak Out Executive Committee

List of Demands

— Students of Cincinnati Public Schools
August 5th, 2020
"This is an opportunity for the young people and the city of Cincinnati to rise up in peaceful demonstration to take a stance against racism that is seen within our communities and, potentially, also experienced within our schools."

— Laura Mitchell, Superintendent, Cincinnati Public Schools
We demand that every High School develop a dedicated peer group to discuss the issues faced by Black students in their respective school.

We want to make sure that it doesn’t just end here. It’s important that school is a safe place and feels like family.
We demand the District create a platform for all voices to be heard through a student-led public rally.

Whenever it becomes safe to gather, CPS should acquire a spot downtown to give a platform to those who want to speak and raise awareness about the injustices that young Black people face. This will allow for more teens and adults, of all races and ethnicities (who may not have been a part Speak Up Speak Out), to join the conversation. This could be organized and led by any CPS student who is interested in supporting the effort.
Rachel Scales
Riverview East Academy
We demand that Black History is embedded in the curriculum throughout the school year, not just in February.

We want to be taught about the injustices attached to our economic status as well as our political status. We demand a non-filtered, updated and accurate history course required for all students to graduate High School whether offered virtual or in-class. Additionally, we would like all staff to participate in an ongoing cultural competency training to be able to properly teach these courses.
We demand that CPS actively support students who want to become more civically engaged. High School leaders should support all students that are of age to vote by taking students through the registration process and providing credible information in regards to candidates. We also demand assistance with understanding the voting process for those that are not of age to vote, in hopes to be best prepared for the future.
We demand that CPS facilitate a stronger relationship and better understanding between students and the Cincinnati Police Department.

Building a relationship with CPD could assist with the tensions felt between students and police officers in the community. We hope to have a relationship with officers that makes us feel safe and not threatened or looked at as a criminal just because of the color of our skin.
What's next for SUSO...

Images from SUSO Executive Committee Student Celebration, 2020
THANK YOU
Visit CPS-K12.ORG/NEWS/BACKTOSCHOOL for more information.