



PRESS RELEASE

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RELEASE **FOR A TIME LIKE THIS: THE CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO SYSTEMIC RACISM**

NCEA will facilitate a dialogue on confronting racism in our Catholic schools and communities in a live webinar on June 10 at 6:30 PM EST/3:30 PM PST.

Arlington, VA – The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) invites Catholic school educators, leaders, administrators, diocesan heads and all those who wish to challenge racial injustice to tune into For A Time Like This: The Catholic Response to Systemic Racism on Wednesday, June 10, at 6:30 PM EST/3:30 PM PST. The title of this live webinar comes from Esther 4:14 – a powerful verse speaking to the gravity and charge of the position of leadership and advocacy we have as Catholic school educators.

The panel is made up of black Catholic school educators prepared to address the inherent inequality and systemic racial injustice in Catholic schools and how to take effective action to create change. The panel includes:

- Vincent Hale – Music and Theatre Teacher, Our Lady Queen of Angels, New York City; Enrichment Team Lead, Partnership Schools, New York City
- Fr. Doug Hunter – Pastor, St. Roch Parish and School, Indianapolis, IN; Chaplain, Roncalli High School, Indianapolis, IN
- Dr. Brandi Odom Lucas – Principal, Verbum Dei High School, Los Angeles, CA
- Brandon Williams – Educational Consultant, Green Ivy Educational Consulting, Los Altos, CA; Verbum Dei High School, Class of 2014
- Tiffany Norris, School Counselor, Cathedral Catholic High School, San Diego, CA

Catholic schools are an essential and integral part of the Catholic Church's ministry. As faith-filled members of Catholic communities across the United States and the world, it is impossible to ignore the recent unrest and violence related to the spate of tragic, racially

charged events. NCEA is certain the time is now for an open and honest discussion of the way forward.

"I firmly believe that Catholic schools make a difference in the world," said NCEA Interim President/CEO Kathy Mears. "We were taught and we teach our students that every person is made in the likeness of Jesus and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. As Catholic school educators we owe it to our students and communities to live the Gospel message as best as we possibly can."

For more information on NCEA and the [statement on racism](#) and [blog post](#) by Kathy Mears, NCEA Interim President/CEO, visit www.NCEA.org. Connect with NCEA on [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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In service of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, NCEA strengthens Catholic school communities by providing professional development, formation, leadership and advocacy.