

From: [Beth Barts](#)
To: [Eric Williams](#)
Subject: Chief of staff public blog
Date: Sunday, June 7, 2020 7:36:09 AM

Dr. Williams,

While I appreciate Ms. Hamlett's right to share her story, have concerns that as your chief of staff her words could be a reflection on LCPS. She is not the equity supervisor but your chief of staff. While perhaps she is not referring to LCPS teachers or the LCPS equity budget, I personally perceived it that way and I wonder if many in our community would as well. This has been going on for a while.

In addition I spoke with her Friday referencing concerns about students social media posts being used for vengeance. Many of these students posted things as young teens in private and now their lives are being destroyed by screen shots that can't even be verified. Colleges removing them, scholarships rescinded. I shared I was worried about the mental health of all involved. Her response was how students of color may have felt seeing those posts. This is not appropriate. We do not employ an "eye for an eye" mentality. What happened to restorative practices?

Please consider addressing this.

Thank you.

Beth Barts

Her blog—

1. Seek opportunities to educate your children at home despite what they're being taught or who is teaching them in school.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) are not buzz words, programs, checklists, or initiatives. The words are being misused and overused by many. As educational leaders, in order for us to drive and expand our vision, it must be embedded within every action taken and considered as we solve problems of practice. I challenge educational leaders to omit the words from your vocabulary and model the way! It takes trauma informed leadership to recognize and address racial trauma of self and others.

School Boards and school district leaders have to genuinely collaborate with the black community, which means recognizing that although they are responsible for the education of all students, if they focus on a major overhaul of policies and systemic structures that have stifled the progress of black children, all children still benefit. Mental health and social emotional learning resources, Restorative Justice, culturally responsive instructional frameworks, and anti-racist curriculum for educators, students, families, and caregivers are essential to authentic equity work. A DEI training here and there and a minuscule equity budget won't cut it. The words "equity" and "inequity" can no longer be used to describe