

Dear Colleague,

The 65th anniversary of the *Brown vs. Board of Education* U.S. Supreme Court decision was May 17. I'm requesting that you join me and the Alliance for Excellent Education (All4Ed) on a yearlong campaign to collectively focus on meeting the needs of our most underserved students and honoring the intent of the *Brown* decision.

On May 17, public officials issued statements and organizations held events to recognize *Brown's* 65th anniversary. These actions brought much-needed attention to the *Brown* decision and the additional work needed to ensure that every child has opportunities to succeed. However, one-day events are not enough for the students who attend schools with leaky roofs, no heat, and not enough desks for every child. They're not enough for parents who send their children to these schools every day in hopes of a better tomorrow.

Beginning on May 17 and continuing every month for a year—All4Ed will share an issue and supplemental materials related to the unfulfilled promise of *Brown vs. Board*. All4Ed and its partners will highlight current challenges related to these issues, as well as promising solutions to address them.

I encourage you to visit <u>all4ed.org/BrownVBoard</u> to watch a video we shared on May 1 to introduce our year-long initiative, #OurChallengeOurHope. Please consider being a partner as we engage students, educators, parents, civil rights advocates, policymakers, and others to highlight the continuing needs of students—no matter their race, zip code, or background. Specifically, we ask partners to:

- Film a video of two minutes or less using our #OurChallengeOurHope hashtag explaining how your organization plans to advance equity in 2019.
- Keep us informed of your equity-focused events so we can promote them and, in turn, you will promote All4Ed's.
- Help share and distribute videos, blog posts, and other *Brown* and equity-focused materials.
- Participate in our monthly events, webinars, and online discussions about *Brown*.
- Encourage your members and/or stakeholders to also engage in similar work.
- Agree to have your organization identified as a partner on our *Brown vs. Board* webpage and provide a high-resolution version of your logo for the webpage.

Be part of our journey—our challenge—our hope—that this landmark case doesn't fade at midnight on May 17. For the sake of our most underserved youth, please consider joining All4Ed as a partner in this critical work. If you are interested in signing on as a partner, please contact Jason Amos, All4Ed's Vice President of Communications at jamos@all4ed.org.

Sincerely,

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Deborah Delisle President and CEO Alliance for Excellent Education