

Good day, I am A, Mother, Grandmother, Community Advocate and Director of Parent Voice with the National Parents Union. I bring you greetings from Detroit Michigan where only 5% of eighth graders and 12% of Third graders are proficient in reading.

Historically education for Children of African Decent in America has failed, added to the poverty we see in our communities and made our sons and daughters feel as if they are the problem and not the broken systems that govern the schools. School leaders and legislators see our children as dollars in seats with no regard for their future outcomes. Until policies and systemic racism is addressed, schools will continue to miss the mark and fail.

We the National Parents Union ask the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent to join us in calling on the US Dept of Education to assure Children of African Decent receive and Equitable right to a High-Quality Education in every community now.

We no longer have time to wait when our children's mental health, economic stability and the very breath they breathe are at risk. Education for African American children remains just as broken as when it was illegal for us to read and write.

Parents now are walking away from schools and turning to old yet revised models of educating in their own homes. Like my great uncle Eli Glover who started a school in his living room in 1924 Tired of his children walking 2 towns over to the closest school in North Carolina.

100 years later Parents like myself have determined that If school leaders won't reinvent schools, we will do it ourselves.

The Children of African Descent in America greatly appreciate everyone here for seeing into our flawed and intentionally broken, inequitable and unjust schools' system and calling them out.

We ask that every time you meet an American dignitary, ask them"

- why are your schools not serving children of African Decent in your own country?
- What do you plan to change now to correct harm done to families?

And remind them that Our Countries Government is no Better than the Education It Gives Its Most Vulnerable Children.

Thank you for this time and Bless you all.