



Letter from Leadership

Dear Educare DC Families,

At Educare DC, we see the brilliance of our children every day, and the wild and infinite potential they hold. We celebrate their inherent worth, and are driven by our vision for a future in which all children have equal opportunity to reach their full potential – a future which is far too often not a reality for Black children and their families.

Like so many, our hearts are broken by the vicious murder of George Floyd and the indescribable loss that his family and friends are experiencing. The events of the past week have tapped a well of hurt, anger, and frustration within the Black community, the depth of which cannot be measured. George Floyd's murder was the continuation of hundreds of years abuse, starting with the massive and brutal kidnapping of millions of Africans, who went on to build this country, only to repeatedly suffer at its hand.

To this day, Black men, women, and children continue to die at the hands of law enforcement, vigilante acts of violence, as well as unequal access to health care, education, jobs, housing, and other forms of structural racism. Our country's racist structures pose a direct threat to Educare DC's children, families, and many of our staff members, and we want to state plainly: racist systems and structures and sentiments are antithetical to Educare DC's mission and vision.

It is imperative that our country right this wrong.

Educare DC stands with those shaking with righteous anger and demanding justice. We commit ourselves to becoming a more intentionally anti-racist force in our community.

Educare DC does not hold the answers, but we do know two things for certain:

1) Black Lives Matter. We stand in solidarity with all of our Black colleagues, partners, children, and families. You matter, your life matters.

2) Now is not the time to stand quietly by. A future in which Black children have equal opportunity to reach their full potential is not possible without true and lasting systemic change. We must all show up, stand up, and speak up, for starters. You can protest, sign petitions, write letters, donate resources and amplify Black voices. If you are a White person, use your privilege and your network and your influence – and educate yourself – don't expect your Black brothers and sisters to teach you. We can all stand in solidarity to demand change, and we can all take action to make the change.

Below are some resources which may help guide your thoughts and actions.

We stand together – for all Black people and for our children. The need for action has never been greater.

In solidarity,
Pyper Davis
Executive Director

Resources for talking with children

DC Area Educators for Social Justice – Early Childhood and Elementary Resources

31 Children's Books to Support Conversations on Race, Racism and Resistance

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This statement has been shared with Educare DC staff, board, and to our mailing list of 700 donors, civic leaders and public officials.

Educare Zoom Edition!

Even though our teachers and students are currently not able to be together in the classrooms, our teachers still work hard to find creative ways to help our students learn, connect, and create special crafts for their parents!

The teachers of classroom 160 brainstormed and came up with the idea to create books for each of their students families. Each book featured a collage of photos of all the fun learning activities that their little Einsteins have done throughout the school year as special gift to all the moms for Mother's Day, which the teachers then went out and delivered to each family. A special shout-out to Ms. Sharita, Ms. Feleisha, and Ms. Charisse for their amazing teamwork and genuine outpouring of love for their families and students during this time!



Learning Tip of the Month

Try, try, and try again - help your child develop a **growth mindset!**

Helping your children develop their perseverance and resilience gives them the strength to try something multiple times and to develop a growth mindset!

A growth mindset is the belief that our intelligence and skills can grow with hard work and effort. Kids who have a growth mindset like to challenge themselves, show resilience in the face of obstacles, and see failure as a learning opportunity.

Use these tips to help your child develop perseverance and a growth mindset:

- **Use Process Praise** - rather than saying "good work!", share your specific observation by replacing it with something like "Good job sharing your toys!"
- **Embrace the Power of Yet** - when your child says "I can't do it", remind them they are still learning and can't do it **yet!**
- **Remind your Kid of Their Successes** - remind your child of their own stories of perseverance, specifically moments where they worked hard to learn a new skill or solved a difficult challenge.



ALL STAFF SHOUT-OUT!

We would like to give a special shout-out to all of the Educare DC teachers and staff! Thank you all for going above and beyond for our children and families - we truly appreciate you and all your hard work during these tough times.

Your compassion, determination, and innovative ideas have not only helped us to continue to support our families, but also shows the resilience and importance of high-quality early childhood education.

Thank you again for all you do! - Educare DC Leadership

Additional Information:

Educare DC Parent Hotline: please call 202-929-0206 if you need support.

Enrollment Season: enrollment for the 2020/2021 school year is starting up soon- help spread the word to prospective families that are interested in joining the the Educare DC family!

Remind App: remember to utilize the Remind App, if you are not already - contact Family engagement to help set an account up or if your phone number has changed.

A School for Your Community

Educare of Washington, DC, is an early childhood school built to serve the children and families of Washington, DC. We engage and empower parents in their children's learning and provide high-quality education through small class sizes and cutting-edge teaching methods. We are also committed to evaluation and continuous program improvement through our partnerships with the Educare Learning Network, Head Start and the University of Maryland.