

Date : 9/26/2017 5:16:37 PM

From : "Kate Pett"

To : "Joyce Brown" , "James E. Lee III, MBA"

Subject : RE: Copy of facebook message

Hey friends,

Not sure how often either of you are on facebook (sent the original message there with link to facebook thread), so I wanted to keep you posted on the push back and express my own sadness on the decision regarding Bree Newsome:

To my two friends and board members - in case this post doesn't appear in your feed, I wanted to pas it along. I am so disappointed that we missed this opportunity to inspire our students to advance racial justice. I understand that these choices are risky and scary but I know this community is yearning for courageous leadership in our schools. And I know that our country has never needed a new generation of bold activists than it needs them now. The high school students in Asheville who boycotted lunch counters, and sat in at the downtown library , and walked out of Asheville High, were arrested like this young woman to create change. Again, I understand that these decisions are complex, but we should lean into listening, and amplify the voices of people of color right now. More than ever. And this community will have your backs when you make choices that are risky but seek to empower marginalized voices. We know this by the many times that City Council has now stepped out to oppose unfair laws created by the General Assembly, and found rousing support in the community. You both have all my respect, and appreciation for your service.

Hugs,
Kate

Kate Pett

Executive Director

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