

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2018

Action4Equity Presents Equity Recommendations to Newly Elected School Board

Community Group Focuses on Equity, Achievement Gap, and Healthy Schools

Winston-Salem, N.C. — Representatives from Action4Equity hosted a press conference to announce their recommendations to the newly elected school board. Details about the demands were provided at the press conference.

Who: Action4Equity, a community group that seeks to advocate for equity for students in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools in academic achievement, access to high quality instruction, and safe and healthy school environments

What: Press conference to announce recommendations for newly elected school board

When: Thursday, December 13 at 6:00 P.M.

Where: Education Building, 4801 Bethania Station Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27102 ([map](#))

“Action4Equity is here today because we are excited about what our new school board can bring to the students, teachers, staff, and families of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County,” said **Kellie Easton, coordinating member of Action4Equity**. “In fact, we are so excited, we presented our list of ideas that we will believe will advance equity in our school system to the school board tonight. Our kids can’t wait and neither can we.”

The recommendations request Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System take actionable steps to decrease disparities between students of color and white students. Some of the demands include:

- Creating and funding an Office of Equity;
- Mandatory racial equity trainings for school board members; and,
- An analysis of suspensions and expulsions as well as school-based referrals to the criminal justice system.

After the press conference, members of the Action4Equity group transitioned to the school board meeting where they shared their list of recommendations via public comment. To close, Action4Equity invited the school board members to a community forum scheduled for winter 2019.

“The Action4Equity Coalition is asking the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school leaders to commit to equity in schools,” said **Peggy Nicholson, co-director for the Youth Justice Project of the Southern Coalition for Social Justice**. “None of their recommendations are revolutionary – many other boards of education have taken similar concrete and measurable steps to promote equity – and they are already seeing the payoffs in their districts.”

For a copy of Action4Equity’s recommendations, [click here](#). Their website is <https://www.action4equityws.org/>.

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