

## Stonington Public Schools Statement Regarding Critical Race Theory

In July of 2020, the Stonington Public School's Leadership Team inspired by our students, alumni, and community members published its [Call to Action](#). Over the course of the past year, administrators and teachers have engaged in professional learning and conversations about race and racism to advance the district towards becoming an anti-racist, anti-biased learning environment. The leadership again states its commitment to this work and makes this statement boldly, that our schools are not the place for hatred, prejudice, and bigotry.

Claims have arisen about our schools teaching Critical Race Theory (CRT), a college-level theoretic course developed in the 1970s. These claims are false. Stonington Public Schools posts its Board approved, standards-based curricula on its website. The curricula have been publicly available on the website for more than four years and the district is committed to continuing this transparent process. In addition, the school system is proud of its work in regard to diversity, equity, and inclusion. These efforts all align with [The Connecticut State Board of Education's Position Statement on Culturally Responsive Education](#).

Our teachers and administrators must be supported and encouraged to teach the truth about history in order to develop critical thinking and perspective in our students so that they, the students we serve, can draw their own conclusions about the past, current events, and the impacts of social injustice. It is our duty to teach students to be respectful of all human beings regardless of race, ethnic origin, gender, social class, ability, religion, or sexual orientation.