



NAACP
Pennsylvania
STATE CONFERENCE

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Diana Robertson, Communications

Email: communications@pastatenaacp.org

215-605-5327

SEWICKLEY ACADEMY SPARKS LAWSUIT IN RESPONSE TO NEWLY APPOINTED LEADERSHIP TEAM

The NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference is concerned about the direction the Sewickley Academy has taken in the recent removal of African American leadership of its school. Clearly Sewickley appears to be a little misguided in the meaning of the philosophy of diversity, equity, and inclusion when it comes to staff.

Additionally, from the statements made by the new head of school, there really does not appear to be a definitive reason why five members of a leadership team would all be terminated at the same time. Also, how does one who is new herself in a position, in less than a month terminates at least five members of a leadership team. The pandemic has created many problems and then on top of that to remove an entire leadership team that would represent solace for a certain percentage of students does not appear to be sensitive to the needs of students of color.

President Kenneth Huston stated, "The NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference will continue to monitor the actions of Sewickley Academy and the feelings of the parents who are discontent with the recent actions. Since parents have a powerful voice in the direction of the school, it is extremely important that all voices be heard and that a safe environment is present for all students enrolled at the school."

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Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. The Pennsylvania State Conference was established in 1934 and pursues the same mission throughout the Commonwealth.