

September 8, 2026

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San Francisco Unified School District
555 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

All Members

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Executive Director

**African American Achievement &
Leadership Initiative**

San Francisco Unified School District
555 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: The Unquiet Resignation - Request for Accountability and
Corrective Action**

Dear Members of the San Francisco Board of Education and SFUSD Leadership:

We are enclosing *The Unquiet Resignation: How One Principal's Fight Against SFUSD
Uncovered a Pattern of Institutional Racism*, an investigative article by journalist Malik
Washington.

"Justice Delayed Is Justice Denied"

William E. Gladstone

Destination: Freedom

Destination Freedom Media Group

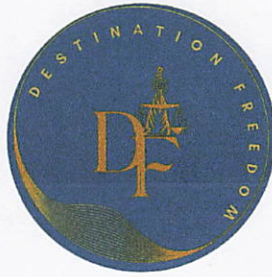
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Advocates for Prisoner rights, rehabilitation
and criminal justice reform



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We urge you to read this article in its entirety.

We will not repeat here the evidence and circumstances documented in the article. They speak for themselves. What concerns us is what those circumstances say about the culture, leadership, and accountability of a public school system entrusted with educating one of the most diverse student populations in this country.

The questions raised extend beyond the treatment of Dr. Vidrale Franklin. They concern the educational opportunities afforded Black and Brown students, the treatment of educators who challenge inequity, allegations of retaliation against those who speak out or offer support, and whether SFUSD applies its standards of accountability consistently and fairly.

There is also a difficult question that SFUSD should be willing to confront openly:

How have race and socioeconomic status influenced the District's judgments about what makes a school successful and which students are perceived as contributing to that success?

The circumstances described at Bret Harte Elementary School - and similar concerns raised regarding Balboa High School - make that question unavoidable. Why was increasing Asian enrollment reportedly viewed as a means of strengthening a school rather than placing comparable institutional emphasis on attracting, retaining, investing in, and demonstrating the potential of Black and Brown children?

This is not criticism of Asian students or their families at all. The question is about **SFUSD's institutional decision-making and whether racial or socioeconomic assumptions - conscious or unconscious - have influenced it.**

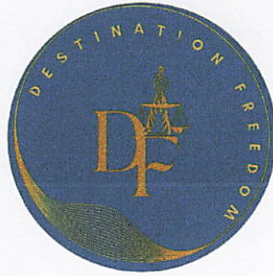
Most importantly, this matter raises questions about the Board itself.

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The Board of Education has an obligation to provide meaningful oversight of District leadership. If Board members were made aware of serious concerns involving racial equity, retaliation, and the treatment of educators advocating for Black and Brown students, the public deserves to know what the Board did with that information.

This should not become another matter answered with silence, procedural explanations, or institutional defensiveness.

We respectfully ask SFUSD leadership and every member of the Board of Education to examine the issues raised in the enclosed investigation, address them publicly and honestly, and take whatever corrective action the evidence warrants.

The question is no longer simply what happened to one principal.

The larger question is what happens to educators and children when challenging inequity carries a professional price – and what the people entrusted with governing our schools intend to do about it.

Sincerely,

Gale Washington
Gale Washington

Founder & CEO, Destination Freedom
Co-Founder, Destination Freedom
Media Group

Malik Washington
Malik Washington

Officer & Director of Destination Freedom
Co-Founder, Destination Freedom
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