

Open Letter Regarding Prone Restraint and Breath-Impacting Holds on Children in Schools

February 19, 2024

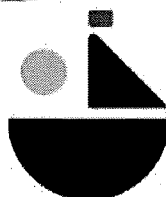
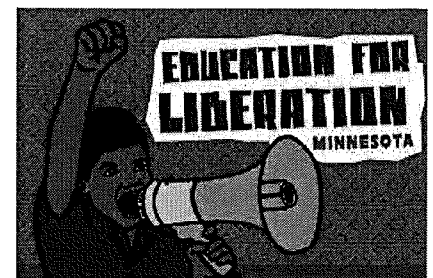
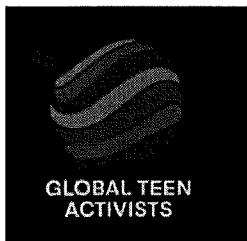
Dear Governor Walz, Lt. Governor Flanagan, Speaker Hortman, Majority Leader Murphy, and Members of the Minnesota Legislature:

Today we join with colleagues, parents, youth, and educators in the Solutions Not Suspensions Coalition to express grave concerns about repealing the ban on prone holds and breath-impacting restraints on children in Minnesota schools. We need these prohibitions for school resource officers and school security personnel to remain in statute.

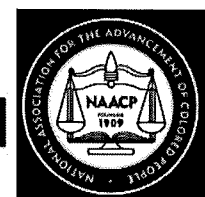
Following George Floyd's murder, our state leaders and the undersigned organizations made commitments to identify and change policies and practices that disproportionately harm people of color.

While some school districts in the state support the use of SROs in their buildings, and their aim is to mend relationships with law enforcement and pass new legislation around model policies and training – reversing the ban on prone holds and dangerous restraints will perpetuate the disparities we have all pledged to end.

Thank you for your consideration.



children's
defense fund
minnesota



NAACI
Minneapolis Branch



education
evolving



CLOSEKNIT
LOVING YOUTH OUT OF HOMELESSNESS

UNTIL
WE ARE ALL
FREE



MIDWEST CENTER FOR
SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION

The ARC Minnesota
Autism Society of Minnesota
ACCRA
Adrian Perryman
Amber Rhodes
Andrea Vencl, parent
Angela Myers
Anita Chikkatur, Carleton
College
Anita Smithson
Annie Westmoreland RN
Ben Snyder
Bruce Hanson
Carlos Mariani
Ceema Samimi, PhD
Charlie St. Dennis
Charlie Tirey, Community
Organizer for Educational Equity
Chauntyll Allen -Founder, Love
First Community Engagement
Chelles Kitchen
Cheryl Persighl
Closeknit
CMC Restorative Training
Conie Borchardt
Diana E Ortiz
Danyika Leonard

Dr. Kimberly Wilburn,
Minnetonka City Councilmember,
Indivisible West Metro
Eboun Singhathip
EdAllies
Education Evolving
Education for Liberation MN
Elaine Kue
Elisabeth Perez
Global Teen Activists
Indivisible West Metro
Jen Westmoreland - Hopkins
School Board Member
Jessica Davis, Public School
Teacher & MNTQY 2019
Karen J Larson, On-air radio
personality WFNU
Katie Posey
Know Your Worth Clothing LLC
Lachelle Cunningham
Lauretta Dawolo Towns
Legal Rights Center
Legal Services Advocacy Project
Love First Community Engagement
Martha Meyer
Mary Lee
Megan Jensen
Minnesota Education Equity
Partnership MnEEP

Minnesota Wrongfully Convicted
Judicial Reform
Multicultural Autism Action
Network
National Parents Union MN
Nekima Levy Armstrong
Pamela Isham
Patricia Torres Ray
Racial Justice Network
Raeisha Williams
Raymond Blackledge
Sandra Reishus
Solutions Not Suspensions
Sumbal Mahmud
TakeAction Minnesota
Tania Rhiger
Teresa Stadem
Tubman
Ubuntu
Ujima Collective
Until We Are All Free Movement
Voices for Racial Justice
Wayfinder Foundation
We WIN Institute
Wrongfully incarcerated &
over-sentenced families council-MN
Xue Xiong
Youthprise