



On Co-Creating Equitable Social, Educational, and Ecological Conditions
For and With the Communities That We Serve:
School of Education at CSU, Chico Position Statement

Since the Presidential election, we find ourselves living in a troubling time where offensive rhetoric has generated disturbing and hurtful actions, on and off campus, in schools, and nearby communities. We are concerned about the immediate and long-term impact that our current political climate will have locally, nationally, and globally.

Any attack on oppressed and dispossessed communities is of deep concern to the School of Education. Dehumanizing and destructive sentiments, threatening policies and practices aimed at marginalized peoples (e.g. people of color, immigrants, Muslims, Jews and people of other faiths, women, the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, individuals living in poverty) and our environment, unequivocally stand in direct opposition to the vision and mission of the School of Education. We will continue to cultivate humanizing spaces along with our continued efforts toward social, racial, and environmental justice. As such, we want to reaffirm that collectively – as teacher candidates, educators, faculty, and staff –we have a responsibility to co-create equitable social, educational, and ecological conditions for and with the communities that we serve.

To our teacher candidates, we know many of you and the young people and families you serve feel fearful, anxious, and vulnerable. We care deeply for you, we stand with you, and we will hold people and ourselves accountable by leveraging our collective knowledge to defend the rights, safety, and dignity of the communities under attack. As a department, we value building relationships centered in trust, love, and healing. We are prepared to provide resources, outreach, and support, in addition to opening up spaces for community dialogue and plans of action. Please know that we are here to support you and we welcome your ideas, questions, and/or concerns.

As we continue to respond to the complexities with which we are confronted, we hold ourselves responsible to act on our commitments in the field of education – rooted in dignity, equity, and justice. The SOE will continue to honor the centrality of social and ecological justice in the work that we do and who we are as a department while striving to make our vision a reality. In the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr.'s beloved community, we welcome everyone to stand with us in our work to collectively cultivate a just world.