

January 30, 2017 – School Board Member Attends Equity Symposium

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SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ATTENDS EQUITY SYMPOSIUM

(STAUNTON, VA) – Staunton City School Board member, Laura Kleiner, attended the NSBA Equity Symposium - *Educating and Leading: Addressing Equity through Effective Policy and Strategies*, on Saturday, January 28, 2017 in Washington, D.C. “It was an honor to attend the Equity Symposium and represent Staunton City Schools. The symposium talked about creating equity -- focusing on race, economic status, and disability. Equity is important and we as a school system should seek out ways to meet the needs of all students.” said Kleiner.

This one-day symposium provided a forum for school board members, public school advocates, and community leaders to examine and discuss the strategies, current trends, research, and best practices that are positively impacting the educational outcomes of academically and economically disadvantaged students in traditional K-12 public settings. Kleiner attended several breakout sessions such as: Achievement and Opportunity in America: Critical Roles for School Boards; The Road to Racial Equity: The Process of Racial Equity Policy Development; The Science of Educational Equity: The Relationship Between Educational Inputs and Student Outcomes; How to Create an Equity-Focused District: Everyone Has a Role; and, What Does Equity Look Like?

Ms. Kleiner shared: “Jobs are different now in a digital age. Nearly 25% of U.S. children live in poverty. Just like the movie ‘Most Likely to Succeed,’ we as a school system and as a community need to make sure education is preparing our children for the years to come. School should be exciting and open up our children’s minds to the world. No child should be denied opportunities due to disability, race, economic status, etc.”

The event, sponsored by the National School Boards Association (NSBA), National Caucus of American Indian/Alaska Native School Board (AIAN), Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE), National Black Council (NBC), and National Hispanic Council (NHC), focused on building the capacity, knowledge, and skills of school board members around issues of access, equity, and diversity in public education.