



## South Carolina Caucus of Black School Board Members

September 19, 2024

Delivered via Email to [info@ed.sc.gov](mailto:info@ed.sc.gov)

### State Superintendent of Education

Ellen Weaver  
428 Wholesale Lane  
West Columbia, SC

Dear Superintendent Weaver,

On behalf of the South Carolina Caucus of Black School Board Members, I am writing to express our profound disappointment and concern regarding your recent announcement of a partnership between the South Carolina Department of Education and PragerU.

As representatives of Black school board members across our state, we are deeply troubled by this decision, which we believe undermines the principles of inclusive, fact-based education that our public schools should uphold. PragerU, despite its name, is not an accredited academic institution but a conservative media organization known for promoting controversial and often biased viewpoints on historical and social issues.

Our primary concerns include:

1. **Lack of Educational Credibility:** PragerU's content is not developed by education experts or historians but by political pundits and activists. This raises serious questions about the academic integrity of the materials that may be introduced into our classrooms.
2. **Potential for Biased Curriculum:** PragerU's well-documented conservative stance on various issues, including race relations and American history, threatens to present a skewed perspective to our students rather than a balanced, comprehensive view.

3. **Disregard for Diversity:** The partnership seems to disregard the diverse backgrounds and experiences of South Carolina's student population, potentially alienating and marginalizing students of color.
4. **Violation of Educational Standards:** We believe that introducing politically charged content from PragerU may violate established educational standards and best practices for curriculum development.
5. **Lack of Transparency and Consultation:** The decision to partner with such a controversial organization appears to have been made without proper consultation with educators, parents, and other stakeholders in our educational community.
6. **Potential Conflict with SC Code 59-29-55:** We are particularly concerned about how this partnership might impact compliance with SC Code 59-29-55, which mandates instruction on Black history for all public school students. This law requires a comprehensive and unbiased approach to teaching Black history, which we fear may be compromised by PragerU's known ideological leanings.

We strongly urge you to reconsider this partnership and instead focus on collaborating with established, non-partisan educational organizations and institutions. Our students deserve an education that prepares them for the complexities of the modern world, encourages critical thinking, and respects the diverse perspectives within our state.

We request a meeting with you to discuss these concerns further and to explore more appropriate alternatives for enhancing our state's educational resources.

Sincerely,



Melvin M. Stroble, Sr.  
President

c. SC Legislative Black Caucus

