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CMS school board member receives backlash over Facebook post

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By **Dedrick Russell, Reporter** [CONNECT](#)

CHARLOTTE, NC (WBTV) - Charlotte-Mecklenburg School (CMS) District Six school board member Paul Bailey is getting backlash over a meme he shared on social media.

Many think it was racially insensitive and should not have come from a school board member who sits on a board that represents a school district with a majority of minority students.

The meme reads, "Black people who were never slaves are fighting white people who were never Nazis over a Confederate Statue erected by Democrats, because Democrats can't stand their own history anymore... and somehow it's Trumps Fault?"

"We have to be an example for the children we are serving in this district," School Board Chairperson Mary McCray said. "And if you can't be an example or a beacon of light for a child who needs a beacon, then you shouldn't be serving here in CMS."

Bailey has since apologized for sharing the post.

"I deeply regret making a Facebook post that some people found offensive," Bailey said. "And to those who did find it offensive, I extend my sincerest apologies."

McCray says Bailey's post could come up at Tuesday night's school board meeting. She thinks Bailey should make a public apology.

"It has got to be more than an apology for board members because I think we have to look at the students that we are serving, the community that we are serving, and parents and our employees," McCray said.

Some people in the community don't have a problem with what Bailey posted.

"People need to kind of get over themselves," parent Wylie Jones said. "I understand the history of both sides. I get that. There's history, but at what point do we let that kind of thing go."

McCray says as an African American woman she can't let that go, while Bailey says he has learned a lesson.

"We all have a lapse in judgment periodically," Bailey said. "And apparently this is something I need to focus on in the future."

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