“How important it is to uplift the voices of all of our students; that our identities are not taboos.”

“The work to unpacking systemic racism didn't start with us and doesn't end with us. We need to empower the youth to face the world we live in by empowering them with finding their own voice and understanding how to navigate making social political change.”

“The empowering of BIPOC communities is so important. I believe it was Olmos who said that we need to give a voice to the voiceless and that was what stuck with me today. As one of those voiceless latinos, I felt that in my soul.”

“I found the board member panel to be very helpful because they offered concrete examples of how policy addresses key issues in their district. Very informative.”

“Thank you for sharing this information and thinking about these important issues facing our school communities today! Well done.”

“Thank you so much for brightening my day by giving me hope that we can bring balance, equity, and fairness!”

“Thanks to everyone for keeping the discussion inclusive and relevant. How school boards lead on these issues will continue to set the tone for leadership and policy narratives across city, county, state and national platforms.”

“The panel moderator was excellent. Highly skilled. The panelists were knowledgeable and of varied backgrounds and expertise. Truly appreciated.”
“Reinforcing the idea that educators are at the grassroots of the system and every action and idea we project to our students create an impact and change for their future. We may not see the magnitude of that change in that moment but years later they will remember that you believed in them and that was one of the first times they began to imagine a better future for themselves.”

“We need to empower at-promise students to dismantle the school to prison pipeline. With every piece of information also send an affirmation (and so much more!).”

“I’m really grateful for the diversity of the panel—having people with teaching experience, school board experience, consulting experience. Very good range of experience represented.”

“The focus on connecting with youth of color to ensure they can learn in a space that is not only supportive but empowering.”

“Teachers can’t predict the future, but they can project the future. Emotional support for students is more important, especially now, than informational support.”

“I learned about practical strategies that can help during remote learning.”

“The power educators have in the life of students—consistency and advocacy is very important.”

“We have to actively and intentionally support, develop and inspire our community to pursue education at every level, including careers across the field—because systemic racism in hiring is real.”

“Dr. Rio’s story is an excellent example of personal accomplishment. As important is his major point that a caring teacher, who believed in him was critical to his academic success. That is an important point, because it lets us share with teachers that they make a difference, no matter their ethnic background. It also shows how teachers are a key asset to asset-based learning.”

“Keep up the phenomenal work in equipping our Latinx board members with the tools necessary to ensure they are doing all they can to provide the keys necessary for our Black & Brown youth. Simply being Latinx on a board does not ensure that, as I have been witness to. Listening to Dr. Rios was inspiring and a much-needed reminder that there is a lot of work to do.”

“The panel discussion represented a diversity and range of approaches board members can take to achieve educational justice for all students, especially latino students. The panel’s composure reflected excellent diversity and significant information for educators.”
“We’re in this together! Communication and collaboration is the key.”

“Real-life and authentic examples as well as the cross-sectional perspectives from assembly members, county and local school districts, as well as legacy leaders like Assemblymember Dr. Shirley Weber.”

“Ethnic studies conversation both with Assemblymember Weber and during the panel were very informative.”

“Powerful to have panel from different areas of gov speaking about partnership. ALL sessions of this conference was great, but this session will be especially helpful for newly elected School Board members.”

“As President Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez emphasized, my takeaway is the importance of relationships among the multitiered organizations working on behalf of black and brown students and all students. The event today provided an important example for maintaining positive relationships to bring together diverse groups and the resolutions of disagreements among leaders. Today we saw how all of us can and should work together for the benefit of all our students. Excellent job to CLSBA leadership.”