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Colleagues,

Lately, I've been feeling a bit of dread every time I look down and see a news alert on my phone. It seems like every hour, we receive an update about some new crisis, emergency, or tragic event. It's exhausting and scary.

We live in a divisive society right now. Recently, some of the NOSS Executive Board members were discussing important and pressing issues facing the United States and world at large. We each expressed some apprehension

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Throughout history, though, educators have helped lead the way forward, even when it was hard and even when the way forward wasn't clear. Educators fight for their students and colleagues, for open and civil discourse, for those who don't have a voice, and for what is right and just and honorable.

In this national season of discord, anger, and fear, NOSS members have the opportunity to remain united in our collective purpose of helping students succeed and meet their goals and dreams. As the prophet Bahá'u'lláh said, "So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth."

I hope you will join me in trying to be a light for the students and one of the people who helps give them hope for the future. I hope you will join me and our NOSS colleagues in helping lead the way forward, building on the tireless work of those educators who came before us, so that we can all live in a society that is civil, equitable, and tolerant.

Meredith

In the interest of encouraging civil discourse and professional behavior within the Organization and at NOSS events and gatherings (virtual or in-person), the Executive Board has adopted the new [NOSS Code of Ethics & Conduct](#).



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