

# Oral Defense Announcement

University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree  
Doctor of Education with an emphasis in Educational Practice

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M.B.A.in Marketing, May 2002, St. Louis University  
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## **Black Female Educator: Underappreciated, Overworked, and the Indelible Quest for Agency Within the Educational System**

Date: April 13, 2024  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Remote

### **Abstract**

In this study, I examined my experiences in the educational system as a Black female who feels overworked and underappreciated, like I must constantly prove my credibility and fight stereotypes, and feel strain of trying to remain healthy, physically and mentally, while trying to find agency in the educational system. I recount the trauma I faced as a Black female student and then as a Black female educator. I documented my experiences from my time in K-12 and my years as an educator. I utilized the Critical Race Theory tenet, persistence of racism, Intersectionality, and Black feminist thought as the framework for analysis. I follow with implications and recommendations for Black female educators and school districts. I conclude with my final thoughts on the study and where this journey has led me as I look to my future as an educator.

### **Defense of Dissertation Committee**

Thomasina Hassler, Ph.D., Chairperson  
Ja'Nae Alfred, Ph.D.  
Robert Good, Ph.D.