



**BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS**
of AMERICA

**Giving Purpose
to Potential**

March 13, 2020

Good afternoon, Business Professionals of America:

This message comes to you after careful deliberation and with a very heavy heart.

As you know, over the past several weeks we have focused on the ever-evolving situation occurring with COVID-19 in order to assess the feasibility of hosting this year's National Leadership Conference. Last night, Governor Lawrence Hogan issued an executive order indefinitely prohibiting large gatherings and events within the state of Maryland. Based on this order and all other relevant information gathered, the National Board of Trustees convened an emergency meeting this afternoon to make the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 National Leadership Conference.

Please know that this decision was not made lightly, and we realize the disappointment that this decision will cause for so many who worked hard throughout the membership year to earn the opportunity to attend NLC. However, there is no greater importance than the health and safety of our student and advisor members.

The BPA experience is a year-round, lifelong learning experience, and the national staff and Board of Trustees are committed to celebrating and showcasing the skills and success of our members. Please continue to stay connected with us through the National BPA website, social media, and the NLC COVID-19 Resource Center (www.bpa.org/nlc/covid19) for additional information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support through this unparalleled situation that our country and the world is facing.

Sincerely,

Dr. LouAnn Ross
Executive Director

Cedric Bandoh
Board Chair