



# DEI HIGHLIGHTS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER TO HIGHLIGHT DIVERSITY INITIATIVES THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT

MARCH 2021 • ISSUE 1

## MESSAGES FROM OUR DEI COMMITTEES

**Diversity Calendar:** The Diversity Calendar Subcommittee is currently working on lesson plans that correspond with the holidays listed in the calendar. (click [here](#) for a link to the calendar)

**CETF Literary Subcommittee:** We are planning an evening community book study event on May 24th at 6:30 pm. We will identify a short list of titles and ask that attendees read book one prior to the event. The event itself will be small group book discussions with questions centered on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

**Student Success:** The Student Success Subcommittee is getting ready to Level Up! Our first project is the creation of a Level Up! Initiative, which will aim to address disproportionality gaps within our schools and promote an equitable environment where all students can develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for academic, emotional, and post-secondary success. We are currently putting together a Level Up! Resource Toolbox, which will house websites and ideas related to everything from service projects, lesson plans, literature, and restorative justice practices. Please share any great resources to include in the toolbox, as well! We are so excited to start the journey towards equity and are on track for a Fall 2021 district-wide launch

**Training Subcommittee:** We would like to recommend a [TED Talk](#) about showing up and fighting for others who face injustices, and a [book](#) titled *The Unforgotten Coat* by Frank Cottrell Boyce!

**Additional Updates:** As we approach Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month, please submit any lesson plans, highlights, pictures and district worthy AAM stories to [jbrown@dasd.org](mailto:jbrown@dasd.org) for feature on district webpage and social media platforms.

Our next Cultural Equity Task Force meeting is March 25th, 2021, 3:45-5:00pm. It is not too late to sign up for a CETF subcommittee. All are welcome, we have much work to do and we need everyone's voice. (click [here](#) for a zoom link to the meeting)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 30th-** Community Training on Implicit Bias

**April 12th-** Parent Night to learn about DEI, open to community, not just parents so members of the DASD DEI Taskforce are invited

**April 19th-** Reunion Para Padres (click here for [Spanish/English](#) flyers)

**April 27th-** Listening Session on Asian Hate

**May 24th-** CETF Literary Subcommittee book study event



## HReminders: 5 ways to be a more inclusive co-worker

**Watch your word usage-** Watch words that could exclude others.

**Amplify Other People's Voice-** Our office spaces can often be competitive, where everyone is looking to be heard. As a district, we should strive to be more supportive and team oriented.

**Identify and call our exclusive behavior-** Be an ally and provide commitment to inclusivity. Call out exclusive behavior and work to dismantle systemic oppression.

**Connect with new people-** Say hi to someone you haven't before. Sit next to someone you normally wouldn't in a meeting.

**Don't Be Afraid to ask questions-** Take slow steps, build relationships, admit when you are wrong, ask questions if you don't know something. None of us are experts, but we can work together to become more inclusive.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Homepage](#)  
[Cultural Equity Taskforce](#)  
[Resources Homepage](#)