

NEWSLETTER

Fairfield Equity Coalition's Weekly Newsletter



Fairfield Equity Coalition is a youth-led organization taking local action to reimagine Fairfield's definition of what constitutes a comprehensive education. Our goal is to push for equitable policy and curriculum changes within Fairfield Public Schools while raising awareness on injustices against marginalized populations within our community.

Welcome to our **sixteenth** newsletter! If you have any suggested items for future editions of our newsletters, please reach out!. Thank you for keeping up with our coalition!

COALITION UPDATE

As discussed last week, FEC has developed a timeline with the district that culminates with the presentation of our report on promoting racial equity in Fairfield Public Schools in early December. We are excited to share our recommendations with the district and Fairfield community and are preparing diligently for December!

Our Publicity Committee is developing a voting and election FAQ series that will be shared on our social media pages this week! While voting is not sufficient in and of itself to create substantial change on any given issue, it is important that we cast our votes for the elected officials that will help make it possible to enact these changes.

Additionally, our Countywide Collaboration Committee is networking with other local equity and advocacy groups so we can begin discussions about future joint projects.

Finally, we are continuing our recruitment efforts so FEC can grow in size and scope. If you are a prospective member of the coalition, our leadership will reach out to you around December to integrate you all in the coalition's projects! If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to us.

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THIS WEEK WE'RE...

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- **Monday, October 19, 7 PM - 8 PM:** "Where Do We Go from Here? A Conversation about Race" free virtual event hosted by the Wallingford Public Library. Join local leaders and thinkers in a conversation about race, community and opportunities for change. Details here.
- **Thursday, October 22, 12 PM - 1 PM:** "Indigenous Approaches to Climate Change" webinar hosted by the SustainableCT. Learn how Indigenous communities invoke unique perspectives to address climate change here in CT and across the country. Details here.

ACTION ITEM *a way to make a difference today*

Cultivating a love of reading early on in childhood promotes educational success and sparks intellectual curiosity in children that can last a lifetime. Obstacles to reading development like the cost of books, a municipality's library funding, and, unsurprisingly, the COVID-19 pandemic, make it so not all children have access to books that are appropriate for their reading level or aligned with their interests. New Haven Reads is accepting book donations by appointment so local children can develop their love of reading. Visit their donations page to donate gently used or new books today!

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Watching the TED Talk "What is Equity and Why Do Our Children Deserve It?" by the 2019 National Teacher of the Year, Rodney Robinson. Mr. Robinson, like our coalition, advocates for educational *equity* rather than educational *equality*. Students do not come to the classroom with the same ability or resources, says Robinson, and a teacher's job is to give each student the appropriate amount of attention needed for them to achieve. Educational equality means resources will be given out in equal parts, while educational equity means resources will be tailored to students based on need, so all outcomes then *become* equal.

GET INVOLVED

We are always seeking new members and leaders! If you are a current student or alumni of FPS and are interested in further involvement, please fill out this survey. If you are a teacher, administrator, parent, or Fairfield resident, please email us at fairfeldequitycoalition@gmail.com to get involved.

FOLLOW US!

