

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 **thirty-fifth** newsletter! As a community newsletter, we encourage our readership to reach out with suggested items. Thank you for your continued interest in our coalition!

COALITION UPDATE

Content warning: police violence and murder discussed in this section and the Action Item and This Week We're sections. We are horrified by the continued unjustified murders of unarmed Black people and people of color by police across the country. In recent weeks, we learned of the separate killings of Daunte Wright, a 20-year-old father living in the Minneapolis area, and Adam Toledo, a 13-year-old child from Chicago. Both of these murders call for the immediate need for a total transformation of our policing systems. We ask our readership not to recoil when "extreme" solutions to police violence are proposed because, in reality, the current state of law enforcement *is* the extreme problem we must remedy. For more information on the problem of policing, see below under "This Week We're."

Our Writing and Analysis Committee collaborated with [Fairfield Yabantu](#) this past week to welcome Fairfield's new police chief and ask that he commit to transparent and open communication and to fully implementing the new standards outlined in a recently passed [police accountability bill](#). You can read our letter [here](#).

FEC and [CT Murals](#) have partnered to create a mural in town; we will be meeting with the Board of Selectman this week to ask for support of this project. We are also continuing our Activism through Art project to encourage high school students to harness their creativity around the idea of equity. Finally, check out our [Instagram](#) for more lovely posts by our Communications team!

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- Thursday, April 22nd, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: "Virtual Anti-Racist Book Club" free online event hosted by [Young Professionals](#). Join the first session this week (subsequent sessions every Tuesday through 6/29) to learn about anti-racism through [Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's](#) book "[Stamped](#)," organized for group discussion. Registration required. Details [here](#).
- Thursday, April 22nd, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: "Guiding Neurodiverse Students in Post-Secondary Transition Planning" free virtual event hosted by [Vista Life Innovations](#). Learn about post-secondary learning opportunities and life for neurodiverse young adults. Registration required. Details [here](#).

ACTION ITEM *a way to make a difference today*

The murder of Adam Toledo by Chicago PD is yet another example of a gruesome and merciless killing at the hands of police. Bodycam footage reveals that Adam had his hands up in full compliance at the time of his murder. Local activists are demanding justice through the firing and prosecution of the officer that ended Adam's life. Please visit this [page](#) to find several ways to support the family of Adam Toledo and the local organizations seeking police accountability, as well as to demand justice for this horrible tragedy.

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Listening to the "[Policing in America](#)" episode of [Throughline](#) from [NPR](#). As this episode states clearly, "Black Americans being victimized and killed by the police is an epidemic." As the [trial of Derek Chauvin](#) plays out, and the country mourns the deaths of the recent murders of [Daunte Wright](#) and [Adam Toledo](#), this racist reality "is a truth and a trauma many people in the US and around the world are again witnessing first hand." This episode "explores the origins of policing in the United States and how those origins put violent control of Black Americans at the heart of the system." We hope that this podcast provides a historical perspective to how racism functions and festers in modern day policing. The episode page also provides further reading on the history of police and reform measures.

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.

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Fairfield Equity Coalition



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