

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 **twenty-seventh** 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

This week, we are scheduled to present the contents of our report "Promoting Anti-Racism and Racial Equity in Fairfield Public Schools" to the Fairfield Board of Education and FPS officials. Our special meeting will take place this Wednesday, January 6th at 8:00 PM. We thank the BOE for granting us this special session so the work of anti-racism can be given the attention it deserves. The presentation will be streamed live on YouTube and then re-broadcasted on FairTV.

If you have not already done so, please engage with our findings by browsing the Publication Page on our website. On this page you will find our report in its entirety, its summary document, and the data collected by our coalition to ground our report in the perspectives of the FPS community. So far, our website has seen over 365 visitors from a total of 13 states since our Publication Day merely one week ago. We are so appreciative of this engagement level and hope it only increases as we continue to work with the district. Please share our work with your networks so we can engage as many people as possible to ensure a democratized debate.

Thank you for continuing to follow our advocacy work. This week is a big milestone for our coalition and we are excited to report back to our following about how our presentation goes!

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- **Wednesday, January 6th, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM at 600 Main St., Hartford:** "Special Theme Tour: Protest & Promise" free guided tour (with museum entrance fee) by the [Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art](#) in Hartford. Registration required; limited accessibility due to construction. Details [here](#).
- **Thursday, January 7th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM via WebEx:** "New Year New Job Search: Looking For Work During the Pandemic" free online event hosted by the [Russell Library](#). Learn about the job market and updated industry information during the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic. Registration required. Details [here](#).

ACTION ITEM *a way to make a difference today*

As we mentioned in our Coalition Update, we are preparing to present our findings to the BOE on Wednesday, January 6th. In addition to sharing our research and recommendations, we would like to share a preliminary summary of our community feedback so the BOE can appreciate how the report has been received so far and the immediate reaction. If you have not already done so, please supply your feedback - comments, questions, and/or concerns - to our report using our [Feedback Form](#). If you have not yet engaged with our findings, we ask that you please do so and then let us know what you think. As always, we seek to represent the concerns of the Fairfield community and your feedback is essential to achieve this goal.

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Listening to "The Invention of Race" podcast episode of NPR's "Throughline". As we discuss in our report, race is a social construct with no meaningful biological distinctions. As we explore how to incorporate anti-racism into education, it is crucial that we acknowledge the "invention" of race and how our social understandings of racial differences developed for explicitly oppressive subjugation. How these perceptions persist in our modern day understandings of race is crucial to decolonizing the classroom in the efforts toward embodying anti-racism. We hope this episode helps explain the evolution of this social construction.

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 fairfieldequitycoalition@gmail.com to get involved.

FOLLOW US!

