SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 VOL. 13

# 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 **thirteenth** newsletter! This edition explores the final touches we're making before publishing our report. Please reach out to us if you have local happenings or action items to suggest for future newsletter editions. Thank you for your continued interest in our coalition!

## **COALITION UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our two new surveys this past week. Your narrative responses will be included in our report and will further ground our research and Actionable Changes in the perspectives of Fairfield students, teachers and staff. Our Student Survey is now closed after garnering detailed and powerful responses. These personal stories remind us that the issue of racism in education is not merely an abstract and distant problem, but one that is specific and immediate in FPS. We are working with FPS and Superintendent Cummings to approve the Teacher Survey for dissemination within the district's channels directly so we can ensure teacher and staff perspectives are properly represented in our report as well.

Additionally, FEC recently hosted our first community event, a virtual yoga session, for our members and the public. Thank you to our fellow member, Liz, for leading this session! We hope future events like this will bring together both coalition members and people from the Fairfield community for some relaxation and fun!

#### IN THIS ISSUE

COALITION UPDATE:
WHERE WE ARE NOW &
WHERE WE ARE GOING

LOCAL HAPPENINGS
AND OPPORTUNITIES

**ACTION ITEMS** 

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

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#### **LOCAL HAPPENINGS**

- Sunday, September 28, 5:30 7 PM at 77-79 Bishop St, Waterbury: "Financial Literacy Afro/Latino(a) Sessions" free seminar hosted by <u>The UnGroup Society</u>. Instructors will lead a unique opportunity for African-American students to learn about institutional racism in economics and building financial literacy. Details <u>here</u>.
- Saturday, October 3, 10:30 AM 4 PM at 2440 Reservoir Ave, Trumbull: "Fall Used Book Sale" outdoor event hosted by <u>Palm & Able of The Kennedy Center</u>. Shop from a wide selection of gently used books for the start of the school year. Masks required for entry, rain date of Sunday, October 4. Details <u>here</u>.

# **ACTION ITEM** a way to make a difference today

The coming election in November includes many important down-ballot races beyond the presidential contest itself. Connecticut voters will have the opportunity vote for federal races, like that of the House of Representatives, as well as many state and local races. Check out this <u>Elections page</u> by <u>Ballotpedia</u> to research the candidates across all levels of government on the ballot in November. No matter the electoral race, your vote matters. We encourage you all to read up on each candidate's platform to cast an informed vote!

### THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Reading the article "Restorative Justice in PreK-12 Schools," published on Medium by McGraw Hill. Restorative justice is an encapsulating term that broadly refers to a reimagination of disciplinary systems towards a non-punitive, problem-solving process. School systems across the country are adopting these reforms to address the damaging effects of current disciplinary practices that disproportionately and unfairly target BIPOC students. FEC advocates for restorative justice principles in our upcoming report and encourages you all to read this concise summary of its relevance in educational reform.

## **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 <u>fill out this survey</u>. If you are a teacher, administrator, parent, or Fairfield resident, please email us at fairfieldequitycoalition@gmail.com to get involved.

# **FOLLOW US!**





