JULY 27, 2020 VOL. 4

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 **fourth** newsletter! Thank you for your continued interest in our coalition. We are incredibly grateful to all of our newsletter readers and supporters. Please contact us if you want to include a local happening or action item within our next newsletter. We're excited to hear from you all!

COALITION UPDATE

This past week, we coalesced many of our separate projects into a singular, unified effort. For the past month, both of our Local and National/State Policy committees have compiled extensive research on a wide range of educational reforms. Taking their hard and detailed work, the Editorial committee has been busy divvying up and drafting each section of our forthcoming report on guaranteeing equity within Fairfield Public Schools.

Additionally, our Publicity committee launched a "Debunking History" series on our social media platforms, in which we detail facts from our local and national histories often overlooked in FPS curriculum. This online conversation reached thousands of people across our platforms; for example, over 700 Instagram users shared our posts with people they know. We encourage our followers and readers to continue these productive conversations on- and off-line!

Finally, we have continued to collaborate with existing equity and educational initiatives, including Fairfield Education Association's Anti-Racism Committee and Selectwoman Nancy Lefkowitz's task force on racial injustice and inequity. We are excited to continue these discussions and joint efforts!

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- Thursday, July 30, 2 PM at Central High School, Bridgeport: The Bridgeport Education Association is leading a faction of the <u>Statewide Car Caravan Rally</u> to call for a safe and equitable school re-opening plan that prioritizes the health of students. (If interested, arrive no later than 1:15 PM)
- Thursday, July 30, 7:30 PM at 433 Fairfield Beach Road: Fairfield Yabantu is hosting <u>Dr. Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz</u> for a discussion of her revolutionary work *Exploring Love from the Vortex and Other Poems*. <u>Register here</u> (and bring your \$25 to the event!)

ACTION ITEMS a way to make a difference today

Every registered voter in the State of Connecticut will be sent an application for an absentee ballot to vote in the upcoming Connecticut presidential primary on Tuesday, August 11th. Make sure to check your CT voter registration status and/or apply for registration and apply (español) for your absentee ballot through your Town/City Clerk (more details here).

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Recognizing the passage of a significant police reform measure in the Connecticut House of Representatives. On Friday, July 24, the House passed a provision that limits the qualified immunity of police in cases of an officer's "malicious, willful or wanton act", standardizes training for police, and increases accountability in areas like use of excessive force and choke-holds, among other things. Contact your state senators if you want to have your voice heard when the provision comes to the Senate later this month.

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!





