MAY 3, 2021 VOL. 36

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-sixth** 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

As we mentioned in our previous newsletter, FEC has partnered with <u>CT Murals</u> to create a large-scale, professional mural done by a local artist that will depict themes of equity alongside local and national civil rights leaders. We presented this idea to the Board of Selectman two weeks ago and received majority support; now, we are looking for an appropriate location for the mural. We encourage any of our readers who know of a business with a large, blank outdoor wall that might be interested in this project to contact us by email.

Every Saturday in May, we will be facilitating an hour-long Equity Chat with local leaders and organizations through our Instagram live. Our first chat on May 8th from 8-9 PM will feature Molly McHugh. Molly is a Fairfield middle school teacher and mom. She is committed to the fight for equity and we are looking forward to our discussion! Check back to our Instagram to see which guests are lined up for the coming weeks!

Finally, our <u>Instagram</u> page continues to share more lovely posts by our Communications team on easy and accessible ways to integrate discussions of equity into our everyday lives!

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- Monday, May 3rd, 1:00 PM 4:00 PM, 994 State St., New Haven, CT: "Legacy & Rupture, a Group Show Featuring Seven Contemporary Black Artists" free event by <u>City Gallery</u>. See a show highlighting Black artists curated by interdisciplinary artist and educator <u>Howard el-Yasin</u>. Appointments are encouraged, masks and social distancing required. Details <u>here</u>.
- Monday, May 10, 7:00 PM 8:30 PM via Zoom: "Affordable Housing: Myths, Benefits & Solutions" free virtual event hosted by <u>Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative</u>. Learn about the debate around affordable housing and its future in CT. Registration required. Details <u>here</u>.

ACTION ITEM a way to make a difference today

As summer approaches, many adults and children are in need of lighter clothing for the warmer and humid months of Connecticut. Preventing heat exhaustion and fatigue is important for a person's health and well-being. Lifebridge Community Services is accepting gently-used clothing for all genders and ages, as well as clothing accessories, household items like bed linens, and toys. If you or anyone you know has the above items available for donation, please visit their donation page for more information on accepted items and donation hours.

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Listening to the "A Classroom Where Math and Community Intersect" episode of Short Wave from NPR. In this short episode, host Madeline Sofia interviews math teacher and scholar Ranthony Edmonds. Dr. Edmonds talks about how she was initially turned off to the subject of math and that, only after math was integrated within a community lens, she became fascinated with the field. As the debate over equity in education continues, we hope this episode demonstrates the importance of encouraging students' math, science and other subject identities. If students see themselves as a part of a field that they can also advance through their own contributions, they'll engage with the material better and take away more from a course. We are inspired by teachers like Dr. Edmonds who are reinventing how lessons are taught and contextualized through community and identity.

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.

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