JULY 20, 2020 VOL. 3

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 **third** newsletter! Thank you for your continued interest in our mission to make lasting change in Fairfield Public Schools. If you are just beginning to learn about and follow our coalition, we are so happy you're here. We have made great strides over the past week and are excited to tell you about them!

COALITION UPDATE

This week, we welcomed our new Co-Presidents, Maxwell Ludlow and Lynnaija Brevard! We are incredibly excited and fortunate to have them as our leaders moving forward. We also restructured our coalition and have officially organized our 90+ members into our 11 committees.

For our report on anti-racism in FPS, we have finalized our ten "actionable changes" which will be the foundation of the report. Through meeting with several local admin, including our Superintendent, Mike Cummings, and Warde and Ludlowe Principals, Paul Cavanna and Greg Hatzis, we furthered our goal of working with community members to collaborate towards change. We are very excited to keep working with these admin alongside other interested community members!

This upcoming week, we will continue working towards our goal of having a finalized report by the end of July. We will focus on the body of the report at large, while paying special attention to its structure. We will additionally incorporate the responses of the teacher survey into our list of "actionable changes." Thank you to all of the FPS teachers who completed our survey!

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- Tuesday, July 21, 12-1PM: Desegregate Connecticut is holding "Discussion: What's Next?" -- a roundtable discussion following Governor Lamont and legislative leaders' announcement that zoning reform will not be on the July special session agenda
- Tuesday, July 21, 4PM at North Haven High School: Black Lives Matter March
- Sunday, July 26, 1-5PM at West Haven Green: A day of protest, arts, and celebration of life and Black culture

ACTION ITEMS a way to make a difference today

Friday, July 17th marked the passing of two instrumental forces within of the civil rights movement, <u>Rep. John Robert Lewis</u> and <u>Rev. Cordy Tindell Vivian</u>. In an attempt to carry the work of Lewis and Vivian forward, we urge you to reach out to U.S. Senators <u>Blumenthal</u> and <u>Murphy</u> and encourage them to prioritize the <u>Voting Rights Advancement Act</u>, which seeks to empower states to revise discriminatory voting laws.

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Listening to Professor Christina Greer's TEDEd <u>How one journalist risked her life to hold</u> <u>murderers accountable</u> in which she explores the life and work of Ida B. Wells, a legendary Black journalist and an early leader in the civil rights movement. After watching, reflect on whether you had learn about Ida B. Wells during your K-12 education and, if you did not, think about the other key figures you learned of only after your time at FPS.

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!





