

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-ninth** 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

In the last two weeks, FEC has been transitioning to a new structure for our post-report advocacy with FPS. We are continuing to work with the district to establish a working group comprised of representatives from all of the equity groups in town. We hope this body will help distinguish between the reforms that can be implemented immediately and the more long-term initiatives that require budgetary and statutory considerations.

Additionally, we will be formally welcoming our new class of members to the coalition in early February. If you are a prospective member who has already filled out our [membership form](#), we encourage you to re-submit the form to clarify your desired role in light of our structural changes. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining our coalition, please fill out the above form and/or email any questions you may have to our email, fairfeldequitycoalition@gmail.com.

If you have read the report and agree with our findings, we encourage you to sign our [statement of support page](#) so we can remind the district how popular these reforms are within the community. Our [website](#) also has links to our [positive press coverage](#) since presenting our report to the BOE. The report, its summary, our data, and the feedback form remain live on our website for further review.

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LOCAL HAPPENINGS

- **Monday, January 25th, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM via Google Meet:** "FAFSA Bilingual Informational Session" free virtual event hosted by Madre Latina. Learn about the process of applying for FAFSA in Spanish and English. Meeting link sent upon registration. Details here.
- **Wednesday, January 27th, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM:** "What is Gender and Why Does it Matter?" free online event hosted by Alex Myers and the Westfield Athenaeum. Alex is an advocate for transgender rights; learn about how gender is expressed and why such expression is important to respect and honor. Registration required. Details here.

ACTION ITEM *a way to make a difference today*

{Re-sharing this item from our last edition; deadline end of this week} The Connecticut General Assembly's African American and Latino and Puerto Rican Sub-Commissions of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity, & Opportunity (CWCSEO) will be offering \$1,000 scholarships to African American and Latinx high school seniors that attend school and reside in Connecticut. We encourage all eligible students to apply for these scholarships through email (send to cwcseo@cga.ct.gov) by **5:00 PM on Friday, January 29, 2021**. For more information, like application materials and eligibility, please review this informational letter, the Puerto Rican and Latinx Scholarship letter, and/or the African American letter or speak to your high school guidance counselor.

THIS WEEK WE'RE...

Reading "New history curriculum created to aid anti-racist teaching." by Katherine Knott for The Daily Progress, re-published in The Washington Post. Some of our survey responses and communication with the public suggests confusion around the connection between rewriting curricula to include a diversity of perspectives (i.e. the "decolonization of curricula") and anti-racism. Similar to the discussion of this connection in our report, Knott explains that decolonizing curricula is fundamental to promoting anti-racism because it is through this process that the false narratives and racial biases often found in White, Eurocentric curricula are eradicated in favor of honest and complete lessons that *actively* combat these racist notions.

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 fairfeldequitycoalition@gmail.com to get involved.

FOLLOW US!



Fairfield Equity Coalition



<https://fairfeldequitycoa.wixsite.com/fecoalition>



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