



# EQUITY IS...

Monthly Newsletter of the SDP Equity Coalition

## EQUITY COALITION UPDATES

### **Big things are happening with the Equity Coalition for the 2021-2022 school year.**

This year the Equity Coalition is going to take a project-based approach to addressing the redesign of a more equitable school district. Each project will have a work team dedicated to advancing the work of that particular project. Work teams will meet regularly throughout the year. Joining one of these teams will allow you the opportunity to work alongside your colleagues on projects that address various areas of equity within our school district. Led by members of the Steering Committee, project work teams will continue to advance efforts in the areas of Policy Review, External Partnerships, the Professional Learning Pathways, and the Newsletter, Website, and Podcast. In addition, this year the Coalition Steering Committee will also focus their efforts on the Equity Audit, the Social Justice Summit, and beginning district-wide Affinity Groups.

**If you are interested in joining a work team, join us for our Open House on October 27th from 3:45pm - 4:45pm to learn more.**

## Equity Coalition Open House



# Join Us!

### **The Equity Coalition is hosting an open house!**

- **Come meet the new Steering Committee**
- **Hear about the projects that are underway**
- **Decide how you would like to be a part of it all**

**When:** Wednesday, October 27th from 3:45pm - 4:45pm

**Where:** via Zoom

Click [HERE](#) to register

# CULTURAL AWARENESS & CELEBRATIONS FOR OCTOBER

OCTOBER RECOGNIZES BREAST CANCER AWARENESS, BULLYING PREVENTION, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS, FILIPINO-AMERICAN HERITAGE, ITALIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE, LGBTQIA HISTORY, AND POLISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE

**Oct 2:** International Day of Nonviolence, is celebrated on Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. The resolution by the General Assembly asks all members of the UN system to commemorate 2 October in "an appropriate manner and disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness".

**Oct 6:** Navrati Begins, the festival is associated to the prominent battle that took place between Durga and demon the Mahishasura and celebrates the victory of good over evil. These nine days are solely dedicated to Durga and her eight avatars – the Navadurga. Each day is associated to an incarnation of the goddess.

**Oct 10:** World Mental Health Day, the overall objective is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health.

**Oct 11:** Indigenous People's Day, a "holiday celebrating the original inhabitants of North America, observed instead of Columbus Day in some U.S localities," with the goal to unify others as well as bring awareness to issues plaguing their communities.

**Oct 11:** National Coming Out Day (LGBTQIAA+), we celebrate coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer (LGBTQ.) This year, we will mark the 32nd anniversary of National Coming Out Day!

**Oct 15:** White Cane Safety Day, or Blind Awareness, was established in 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson in an effort to raise awareness of people who carry a white cane

**Oct 16:** Bosses' Day, began in 1958 when Patricia Bays Haroski, then an employee at State Farm Insurance Company in Deerfield, Ill., registered the holiday with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Haroski chose Oct. 16, her father's birthday, as the date for National Boss Day because she felt he was an exemplary boss.

**Oct 17:** Spirit Day (LGBTQIAA+ and Anti-bullying), an annual LGBTQ awareness day observed on the third Thursday in October. Started in 2010 by Canadian teenager Brittany McMillan, it was initially created in response to a rash of widely publicized bullying-related suicides of gay school students in 2010, including that of Tyler Clementi.

**Oct 19:** Eid Milad ul-Nabi, is celebrated as the birth anniversary of the last Prophet of Islam, Prophet Muhammad by the Muslims from the Sufi or the Barelvi school of thought. The festival is celebrated during Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar.

**Oct 20:** Sikh Holy Day, Sikhs celebrate the first installation of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji on 1st September and the Conferment of title of "Guru" on Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji on 20th October each year.

**Oct 22:** International Stuttering Awareness Day, designated in 1998, this day is intended to raise public awareness of stuttering, which affects one percent of the world's population.

**Oct 31:** Halloween, the word "Halloween" comes from All Hallows' Eve and means "hallowed evening." Hundreds of years ago, people dressed up as saints and went door-to-door, which is the origin of Halloween costumes and trick-or-treating

[CLICK HERE](#) for resources to help you celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day - Monday, October 11th



# Help us celebrate National Coming Out Day!

The School District of Philadelphia, in collaboration with [Club Pride](#) and the [Equity Coalition](#), will be proudly celebrating National Coming Out Day on Monday, October 11th. In preparation, we are creating a Coming Out Day Video Montage featuring diverse staff members celebrating and showing support for students and fellow colleagues who are out of the closet and for those who are not.

If you'd like to show your support by being a part of the montage, use your phone to record a quick video (less than 20 seconds) of yourself answering one of the prompts below. Save the video and upload it **using the submission form [HERE](#)**. Submissions are due by the end of the day on Wednesday, October 6th.

## **PROMPT 1:**

If you identify as LGBTQIA+ record yourself sharing the following prompt: **"I am (first name only) and I have been out and proud for \_\_\_\_\_."** (state the number of years, months, weeks, days, OR minutes you have been out)

## **PROMPT 2:**

If you identify as an ally for the LGBTQIA+ community record yourself sharing the following prompt: **"I am (first name only) and it's safe to be yourself with me."** (think about how you can creatively show your love/support in a way that feels right to you)

To assist in the creation of your video, you can find some helpful **recording guidelines [HERE](#)**. Also, please remember that due to the high volume of video submissions we receive, not every recording will be included in the montage.

Thank you for showing love and support to all members of our diverse Philadelphia community! You can learn more about National Coming Out Day and the ways the District supports our LGBTQIA+ community, visit our [Club Pride website](#).

## LATINX IDENTITY AND REPRESENTATION



Join us for a community conversation to explore the diversity within the Latinx community here in Philadelphia. This panel conversation will cover topics of culture, colorism, identity, media representation and how these things play out in our schools.

**DATE: Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

**TIME: 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Join us on Facebook Live at the  
SDP Facebook Page or [Register  
HERE to join us via Zoom](#)**



## Indigenous People's Day Resources

*As a part of the district's commitment to ensuring that our instructional resources are Culturally and Linguistically Inclusive these resources have been developed in collaboration with the Office of Academic Supports.*

Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday that celebrates and honors Native American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures. It is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday in October, and is an official city and state holiday in various localities. These [resources](#) explore the history of and current events surrounding Indigenous Peoples' Day.



# Hispanic Heritage Month Resources

## RESOURCES

Infographics by [The Hispanic Star](#)

Find more here: [HHM Infographics & Orgs FOLDER](#)

## PODCASTS

[List of the Top 70 Latino Podcasts in the U.S.](#)

## BOOKS

- I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by [Erika L. Sánchez](#)
- Clap When You Land by [Elizabeth Acevedo](#)
- Once I Was You, A Memoir By [Maria Hinojosa](#)
- The House on Mango Street [Sandra Cisneros](#)
- In the Time of the Butterflies [Julia Alvarez](#)
- [Unforgetting](#), A Memoir of Family, Migration, Gangs, and Revolution in the Americas By [Roberto Lovato](#)

*A special thank you to Julio C. Nuñez from Sheridan Elementary for this list of resources.*

For a list of organizations that serve the Latinx Community click [HERE](#).

## MOVIES

- [Immigration Nation \(2020\)](#) - With unprecedented access to ICE operations, as well as moving portraits of immigrants, this docuseries takes a deep look at US immigration today.
- [La Bestia \(2010\)](#)- The search for the American dream pushes thousands of American centers across Mexico illegally, while riding on the roofs of freight trains to reach the border with the United States
- [Living Undocumented \(2019\)](#) - Eight undocumented families' fates roller-coast as the United States' immigration policies are transformed.
- [Desierto \(2015\)](#) - A group of people trying to cross the border from Mexico into the United States encounter a racist man who has taken border patrol duties into his own hands.
- [Sin Nombre \(2009\)](#) - A Honduran young girl and a Mexican gangster are united in a journey across the American border
- [East Side Sushi \(2014\)](#) - An immigrant single mother disenfranchised by her regular life decides to take a chance working at a Japanese restaurant and realises her dreams to become a sushi chef to provide a better future to her family.
- [In the Time of the Butterflies \(2001\)](#) - In the Time of the Butterflies is inspired by the true story of the three Mirabal sisters who, in 1960, were murdered for their part in an underground plot to overthrow the government.
- [Pelo Malo \(2013\)](#) - A nine-year-old boy's preening obsession with straightening his hair elicits a tidal wave of homophobic panic in his hard-working mother.
- [40 Essential Latinx Films To Watch Year-Round](#)



# October is Bullying Prevention Month

Any person, whether the alleged victim or not, may submit a report alleging bullying, harassment or discrimination. Online reports can be submitted at any time, including after school and on the weekend. Reports can be submitted anonymously. All reports are taken seriously and will be investigated.

## How to Make a Report

1. Complete the online [Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Reporting Form](#);
2. Call the Bullying/Harassment hotline at 215-400-SAFE;
3. Submit an online complaint via [Safe2Say](#);
4. Email the Title IX Coordinator directly at [antiharassment@philasd.org](mailto:antiharassment@philasd.org); or
5. Report the incident to the principal or to any other member of the school staff, including teachers, guidance counselors, bilingual counseling assistants (BCAs), coaches, and administrators.