

ALL PRINCIPALS/APs/TEACHERS: Social Sciences - Instructional Resources for Teaching About Combating Racism, Hatred, and Bigotry

Category:

Audience: All Principals/APs, All Teachers

Due Date: n/a

Meeting Date: n/a

Attachment(s): [Instructional Resources for Addressing Current Events Based on Hate, Intolerance, and Bigotry.pdf](#)

To inform principals and teachers of the availability of instructional resources to teach about combating racism, hatred, and bigotry.

- In the wake of the troubling incident that recently took place in Charlottesville, Virginia, many of our students will be returning to school with questions and concerns. Although this is a sensitive subject, educators are encouraged to find ways to discuss these difficult topics.
- The current climate in our country dictates that Values Matter now more than ever. Schools should be starting the school year with a focus on our nine core values which support educating our students on the importance of empathy and tolerance. Schools must create a culture where all students are encouraged to treat others with respect and dignity regardless of their religion, socio-economic background, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identify, or political beliefs. The Values Matter Miami initiative continues be the foundation for our behavioral expectations for our students.
- Schools should also provide a safe space for students and allies to discuss concerns about their well-being and safety. The promotion of acceptance and sensitivity to diversity in the school to include LGBTQ students, immigrants, and respect for individuals from all religious and cultural backgrounds is a priority for our District. Schools should plan to incorporate “Start with Hello” activities into the opening weeks of school. Sandy Hook Promise’s “Start with Hello” initiative seeks to educate students to create a connected and inclusive community.
- Attached are support resources for counseling professionals provided by the Division of Student Services and instructional resource materials for teachers to use to assist them in teaching lessons that combat racism, hatred, and bigotry compiled by the Department of Social Sciences.
- The overarching goal of providing these resources is to assist schools and teachers in establishing school and classroom cultures based on mutual respect and acceptance where all learners feel safe to succeed.
- The attached resource is organized as follows:
 - Background information for the teachers;
 - Elementary Activities;
 - Middle School Activities;
 - Senior High School Activities; and
 - Webography, including links to resources for both teachers and counselors.
- The attached resources are also posted on the Department of Social Sciences’ website, <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net>. Look under “Current News” in the file titled “Instructional Resources 2017-18” and then find the folder “Confronting Racism and Hatred.”
- Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Robert C. Brazofsky, Executive Director, Department of Social Sciences, rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net or Ms. Martha Z. Harris, Administrative Director, Division of Student Services, mharris1@dadeschools.net, 305 995-7338, or see the contact number below.

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Department: Department of Social Sciences