

An illustration of a young boy with brown skin, a black mustache, and black hair, wearing a red shirt. He is positioned on the left side of the image, looking towards the center.

# Multicultural Diversity and Inclusion Perspectives Team

MDIP



# Why We Exist

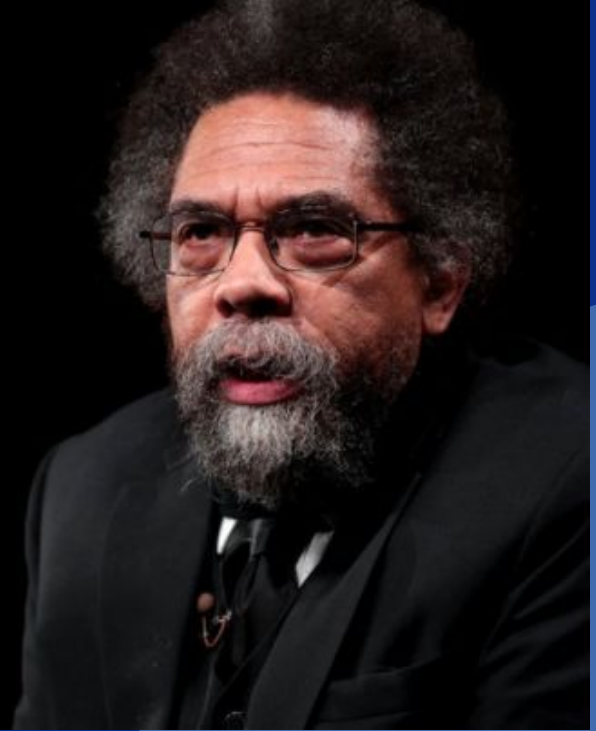
- Our team was born from an overwhelming sense of disempowerment as we recognized the need for change in the way we deal with issues of race in our nation. We also knew that we needed to address these issues and not hide from them.
- Recognizing that as educators we could play an important part in influencing student's hearts, we developed a plan to create spaces for safety and greater understanding in order to grapple with hard issues and see things from another's point of view.
- We committed to lifting the voices of marginalized groups that have been historically minimized throughout this process.

# Our Mission Statement

The MDIP (Multicultural Diversity and Inclusion Perspectives) team is committed to highlighting diversity amongst people and cultures in our nation, lifting the voices of those who may not have historically been recognized or valued, and providing diverse perspectives on both historical and current events. We desire to help students develop their critical thinking skills by teaching them how to think and not what to think, while providing the tools to help them celebrate the diversity of culture and thought within our country. Within this framework our objective is to create opportunities for conversation and understanding as well as supply tools to help staff and families take actionable steps towards positive change.

**Empathy** is not simply a matter of trying to imagine what others are going through, but having the **will to muster enough courage to do something** about it. In a way, empathy is predicated upon hope.

— *Cornel West*



# What We're Doing About It

- Using the Social Justice Standards outlined by the Teaching Tolerance team we're engaging in the following:
- Identity- Identifying and learning about marginalized racial groups within our country from their perspective/voice.
- Diversity- Celebrating the diversity of our nation and highlighting the idea that our differences make us stronger if we choose to learn from one another.
- Justice-asking what justice looks like for those who have been marginalized.
  - Action-finding ways to use our voice and our resources to be an ally to those who have been oppressed.

# What This Looks Like

- Optional Staff Book Clubs dealing with issues of race
  - Live sessions with students addressing issues of identity/diversity and celebrating differences
- Hearing from marginalized groups through a Guest Speaker Series
- Parent Education opportunities for those parents who need tools to talk about race with their students
- Future Staff trainings around racial issues and how it should inform their pedagogy
- Future student book clubs geared towards understanding and social justice issues
- Future field trips looking at local historical sites through the lens of marginalized groups

MDIP  
PRESENTS:

*Speaker Series: Focus  
on Native/Indigenous  
American Life*

11/17/20  
6 PM

A CONVERSATION WITH:  
MICHELLE JEFFERSON OF  
THE CROW NATION

[Zoom Link](#)

MDIP PRESENTS  
A NATIVE AMERICAN &  
ALASKAN NATIVE AMERICAN  
HERITAGE

**READ  
ALOUD**

NOVEMBER 17, 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/62418639947?pwd=UzZlR0R4bmdlNWU2KTlkeWlHRC0BNzZaOQ>



MDIP PRESENTS

**THANKSGIVING:  
EXPLORING  
PERSPECTIVES**

11.16.20 | 1-2PM | 4TH-6TH GRADERS

COME EXPLORE FACTS, MYTHS, AND  
PERSPECTIVES ABOUT THANKSGIVING DAY

[ZOOM LINK](#)

SEE YOU THERE!

