



Diversity News at PCDS

5/2021

April didn't bring us April showers, but it did bring in some critical Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive work at PCDS. The Upper School focused on the planning and execution of our 5th annual Humans of PCDS. This student-led day was dedicated to workshops, speakers, and activities focused on equity. This year's theme, "Celebrating Intersectionality with Purpose," emphasizes looking at the many diverse aspects of a person- gender, caste, sex, race, class, sexuality, religion, and disability. This creates a time during which we can embrace and recognize our greater strength due to our differences.

The day began with a speaker, Rodney Glasgow, talking about his experiences at an independent school while being poor, black, and gay. Students and teachers then attended four 50-minute workshops of their choice. Selections ranged from Native Appropriation in American and Southwestern Life to Human Trafficking Awareness. At the end of the day, students gathered to listen to Schuyler Bailer, the first transgender NCAA athlete. Many thanks go to our IDEA (inclusivity, diversity, equity, awareness) student leadership team for all of their planning. The day was undoubtedly a success!

Jenny Treadway, Director of DEI, met with some young alumni to see how their experience was at PCDS. It was fun to see some familiar faces, all being successful in college and their jobs!

The Middle School had a faculty meeting presented by the MS DEI coordinators. This meeting focused on working to have their classroom spaces be more inclusive. The DEI team allowed faculty to look at their classroom décor and to reimagine this space so that students can see themselves reflected in the room. The faculty will also create one DEI goal to be accomplished for next year.

The Lower School is working on a project of their choice. One project is to catalog all the DEI resources in the lower school. This will enable faculty to see what is available, where it is, and what things are missing in our collection.

Middle School students had the opportunity to hear a presentation about Asian hate and bias. Freshman Anna Sobel, and senior Anna Casey, shared with the students their presentation from Humans of PCDS titled, "The Asian Community: You Should Get to know Us!" Students had the opportunity to learn about the history of Asian bias in our country and how not to be a bystander when microaggressions are used. Advisors followed up with a discussion, game, and Kahoot trivia. The Middle School team sent information home to all Middle School parents, and resources are shared (check out the MS Resources on the DEI page).

Today, students learned about Cinco de Mayo and were greeted by mariachi music in the morning.