



# **EQUITY & INCLUSION**

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## **ONE Community Conference: Healing Through ONE Community**

Olentangy Schools invites you to participate in our 7th Annual ONE Community Conference. The conference theme is "Healing Through ONE Community" and will be a six-part virtual series with events from January through May. Events will include our first annual MLK Day of Service, speakers, virtual author visits, a community-wide book study, student keynotes, service-learning projects, and wellness components throughout. We look forward to learning, growing and healing together.

## **ONE Community Conference Series Event #1: MLK Day of Service**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**January 18, 2021**

ONE Community Conference  
Series Event #1: MLK Day of  
Service

**January 20, 2021**

District Diversity Committee  
Meeting, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
(virtual) [RSVP](#)

**January 24, 2021**

Free Virtual Author Talk with  
Jason Reynolds. Hosted by  
Central Ohio Libraries [Click  
here for more information.](#)

**January 30, 2021**

ONE Community Conference  
Series Event #2: Elena  
Aguilar, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.  
(virtual) [RSVP](#)

**February 1-28, 2021**

Black History Month

Join us for MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 18, 2021. We invite you to join us for an impactful day of community service as we reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Click [HERE](#) to access service opportunities that tackle topics such as: food insecurity, homelessness, economic hardship, domestic violence, natural hair care, and supporting frontline healthcare workers.

## ONE Community Conference Series Event #2: Elena Aguilar

Our January keynote speaker is Elena Aguilar, who will be speaking on the topic of How to Cultivate Emotional Resilience so that we can Build Equitable Schools. Drawing on her acclaimed book, “Onward: Cultivating Emotional Resilience in Educators,” participants will learn how to use five power strategies for cultivating the kind of resilience we need in order to build equitable schools. Participants will anchor in their values and purpose, explore how to navigate uncomfortable emotions, and learn strategies to build community. Elena has trained thousands of educators across the United States and abroad in transformational coaching and team development. Her expertise derives from 20 years as a classroom teacher, instructional coach and leadership coach working in diverse school environments. Please RSVP [HERE](#) to join us for this dynamic virtual speaking engagement.

February 2021

ONE Community Conference Series Event #3: Book Discussion

To learn about different holidays and observances in December and January click [HERE](#).



## ONE Community Conference Series Event #3: Book Study

We welcome all members of our community (middle and high school students, families and staff) to participate in the first district-wide book study. We are participating in conjunction with the NCTE's African-American Read In. The book we have selected is from the acclaimed Track series from Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award-winning author Jason Reynolds called "Ghost." This electrifying novel follows Castle "Ghost" Crenshaw who wants to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school track team, but his past is slowing him down. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him? If you are interested in joining us, please purchase the book. Details on our virtual meeting in February will be forthcoming along with additional information about the remaining ONE Community Conference Series events.

## Professional Development

Olentangy teachers participated in a district-wide Professional Development Day on November 30th. The theme for this year is a sense of belonging and anti-racism. We investigated the following essential question: "How might language create, damage, or repair a sense of belonging?" To kick off the morning, staff watched media clips that showed the power of language and the verbal and nonverbal

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ways language can impact a sense of belonging. Next, they participated in an Implicit Bias & Microaggressions training led by The Ohio State University's Kirwan Institute and heard personal stories shared by students in our district. Finally, staff used the thinking routine called Step In, Step Out, and Step Back, which provided them the opportunity to understand someone else's perspective and foster a deeper understanding of themselves.



### Teacher Spotlight

Learn about the work being done by our amazing staff.

[Teacher's Spotlight](#)



### Heritage Month

We celebrated Native American & Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month in November. Click [HERE](#) to access the full Native American & Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month resource document.



### Action Plan

The Equity & Inclusion team is currently working on action steps and a goal timeline for its Equity and Inclusion Action Plan. Please click [HERE](#) to view the plan.

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