



September 2021 Diversity Highlights

We were welcomed back to school with a lot of excitement and a flurry of activities. At the beginning of school meetings, Jenny Treadway introduced all faculty to the new DEI mission statement. DEI coordinators met to make plans for the year.

The IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action) student leaders had a retreat to get to know each other and to plan the many activities that they will lead this year.

This year we welcomed two AFS (American Field Services) students to our campus. Henning Hermes is from Germany, and Rutbaa Shaikh is from Pakistan.

Jenny Treadway, Director of DEI, is working with the Parent Association Enrichment committee to plan the various diversity activities planned for the year. A presentation for Latin-American Heritage Month was given by IDEA students, and Latin-American Kahoots were enjoyed by the middle school advisor groups. We look forward to entertainment and food in October to celebrate the diversity of the Latin American countries.

The Lower School coordinators contribute articles and resources in their monthly newsletter. These articles are based on their 2021-22 LS Diversity Calendar. In August, the theme was Building Community, and in September, Fostering Inclusivity.

The Middle School coordinators have planned four faculty meetings focused on DEI.

The Upper School is planning a Dia De Los Muertos day and continues to have conversations around equity. Recently, parent, Jim Melikian, spoke to the Upper School Genocide class about the Armenian Genocide and was able to show artifacts from that time.

It is wonderful to see that teachers, faculty, and staff are thinking about DEI issues and are interested in learning. As the year progresses, we look forward to professional development and a comprehensive look at what and how we are teaching.