

## **AUSD Instructional Leaders Attend "Leading for Equity Institute"**

More than 65 instructional leaders from across the district — including principals, teachers, and intervention leads — took part in a "Leading for Equity Institute" with the National Equity Project this week.

During this two-day session, AUSD staff learned to "lead from within" by developing the ability to identify and move beyond implicit biases, recognize systemic oppression, guide group discussions and challenging conversations, and more effectively support our most vulnerable students and families.

"Working with National Equity Project is a way to bring together the relational and technical work that we need to do as educators to create equitable outcomes for students together," says Chief Academic Officer Sara Stone. "It helps all of us connect back to the reason why we became educators in the first place. It helps us to form relationships across context, listen, and learn from one another in a deep and connected way. I appreciate the hard work that we all did on these days and the commitments we have made to continue this work back at the school sites."

Curious about this kind of work and how families can explore it? [This article](#) by NEP staffers Kathleen Osta and Hugh Vasquez provides a basic, super-easy-to-understand primer on why we all have implicit bias and how that bias contributes to structural racism (and vice versa). The article also describes how we as individuals and communities can learn to dismantle those biases, interrupt those structures, and empower others.