

MCCSD EQUITY AND DIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

Team Middle Country,

Welcome back to school! We are looking forward to continuing the Middle Country Central School District's Equity and Diversity Newsletter into the 2021-22 school year! This newsletter is intended to feature equity-driven initiatives and events across the District and in our greater community; recognize upcoming holidays and observances; and share equity-based resources. The September/October issue will highlight Hispanic Heritage Month, Disability History and Awareness Month, National Bullying Prevention Month, resources, community events and upcoming religious and cultural observances.

SEPTEMBER IS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Character Education Word of the Month:
Respect

The United States observes National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15th to October 15th annually. President Lyndon Johnson's administration began this national observation in 1968, which President Ronald Reagan expanded to a month-long period in 1988. The Hispanic Heritage Month serves to acknowledge, honor and celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions of Hispanic peoples from the Caribbean, Central America, Mexico, Spain, Mexico, and South America.

In addition, the Independence Day for Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua is September 15th while Mexico's is September 16th, Chile's is September 18th, and Belize's is September 21st. For more resources on Hispanic



Heritage Month, click [here](#).

Students celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month hosted by Centereach High School!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Town of Brookhaven Hispanic Advisory Board was proud to present the 8th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, which was held on Friday, October 1st. Students in Brookhaven were honored for their academic achievements, including seniors from our very own Centereach High School and Newfield High School. Congratulations to you and your families! For more information, [click here](#).

Centereach High School's Hispanic Heritage Celebration was on Thursday, October 14th. The community was invited to experience the Hispanic culture through food, dance, and art.

Senora Marrero's students at Selden Middle School researched Hispanic role models. She is excited and proud to showcase their work!



OCTOBER IS DISABILITY HISTORY AND AWARENESS MONTH

Character Education Word of the Month: Responsibility

October is Disability History Month! The purpose is to promote awareness and a greater understanding of disability history and people with disabilities. Washington state legislature passed a law declaring the month in 2008.

The Washington State Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds in partnership with Rooted in Rights and two local educators, created One Out of Five. A project designed to offer educational institutions guidance around addressing Disability History Month. For more information, [click here](#).

October is also National Bullying Prevention Month. Founded by the PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center in 2006, this nationwide campaign is dedicated to increasing awareness about bullying through educational activities and the sharing of resources. For more information, [click here](#).

In addition, October recognizes Family History Month and honors the cultures, histories, contributions and achievements of Germans, Italian-Americans, and Polish-Americans.

- For more information about German-American Heritage Month, [click here](#).
- For more information about Italian-American Heritage Month, [click here](#).
- For more about Polish-American Heritage Month, [click here](#).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Alexander's Angels 15th Long Island Buddy Walk was scheduled on October 16, 2021 in Tanner Park, Copiague, NY. The purpose was to educate, advocate for, and celebrate people with Down Syndrome. For more information, [click here](#).

The Long Island Coalition Against Bullying (LICAB) will be holding its first annual 5K run/walk on November 7, 2021 at 8:30am (rain or shine) in E. Meadow, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

UPCOMING RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL OBSERVANCES

September

- Sept. 6: Labor Day
- Sept. 6 (sundown) – 8: Rosh Hashanah
- Sept. 11: Patriot Day
- Sept. 15 (sundown) – 16: Yom Kippur
- Sept. 17: Constitution Day

October

- Oct. 11: Columbus/Indigenous Peoples
- Oct. 31: Halloween

BOOK CLUB

Children's Books

- *All are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold
- *Counting Ovejas* by Sarah Weeks

Young Adult

- *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander

