

San Diego
March 1-2, 2024

2024

A GATHERING OF GIANTS CONFERENCE

Embark on a transformative journey with 21CSLA and LAEP as we empower educators to become justice giants in their communities at 'A Gathering of Giants' conference. Through innovative programs, we cultivate leaders while championing equity and social justice. By fostering collaboration within communities of practice, we're shaping a future where every student has the opportunity to thrive. Welcome to a transformative journey in educational leadership with 21CSLA and LAEP.



LOS ANGELES
EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP

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A GATHERING OF GIANTS

Order of Events

03.01.2024	FRIDAY NIGHT WELCOME GIANTS !
04:00pm	Registration begins on the 4th floor- Sapphire Level
06:00pm	Dinner served and our communities of practice begins
06:35pm	Welcome message from Dr. Antonia Issa Lahera
06:45pm	What, Why, Who? John Resendez LAEP Core Director & 21CSLA Regional Director
06:55pm	Welcome message from Dr. Dawn Kurtz Interim CEO at LAEP
07:00pm- 07:45pm	Anthony Jackson Part I- Beloved Community, Beautiful School: In Pursuit of an Educational Equity and Justice Aesthetic
07:45pm- 08:00pm	Processing with Abdul-Rehman Issa
03.02.2024	A SATURDAY OF TRANSFORMATION
07:00am- 8:00am	Breakfast Buffet - Sapphire Terrace Wellness - Maker Space Available

Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.

Dolores Huerta

A GATHERING OF GIANTS

Order of Events

07:40am	We Gather Again with Dr. Antonia Issa Lahera
07:50am	Welcome Back John Resendez
08:00am	Anthony Jackson Part II - Beloved Community, Beautiful School: In Pursuit of an Educational Equity and Justice Aesthetic
	Wellness Space Available
08:45am	Processing with Abdul-Rehman Issa
	Hotel Check-Out if needed. Hotel will keep your luggage for the duration of the workshop
09:20am-10:30am	<u>Workshop 1 - Select from Rotation Option I</u>
10:35am-11:45am	<u>Workshop 2 - Select from Rotation Option II</u>
11:45am-12:30pm	Lunch - Sapphire Ballroom Maker Space Available
12:30pm-12:55pm	Processing with Abdul-Rehman Issa

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Dolores Huerta

A GATHERING OF GIANTS

Order of Events

01:00pm-
02:10pm

Workshop 3 - Select from Rotation Option III

02:10pm

Snack

02:15pm-
04:00pm

Let the Magic Begin:
Justice Giants Carol King and Skylar King

Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.

Dolores Huerta

Rotation I

<p>COP Leadership for Classroom Practice</p>	<p>COP Leadership for Transformation</p>	<p>COP Leadership Wellness, Culture, Climate</p>
<p>Early California Laws and Policies Related to California Indians</p> <p>'ataaxum Pomkwaan Aqua 314</p>	<p>Overcoming Negative Self-Talk for Leaders</p> <p>Dr. Mark Kabban Sapphire 411B</p>	<p>What Did You Just Say?! Using Compassionate Dialogue as a Protocol to Interrupt Implicit Bias and Discuss Tough Topics</p> <p>Myeshia Whigham Sapphire 410A</p>
<p>Fair & Square - Leveraging Text for Representation in K-12 Curriculum</p> <p>Mick Rabin Aqua 311B</p>	<p>Leading for Equity with Habits of Mind Workshop</p> <p>Dr. Regina McDuffie Sapphire M</p>	<p>Balancing the Books: A Time-Out for School Leaders - Mastering the Art of Self-Care and Dodging Burnout Like a Procrastination Expert!</p> <p>Sally Stevens LCSW Sapphire I</p>



Rotation I Continued

<p>Schooltalk in an Era of Attempted Restriction: Continuing Student Support Through Our Efforts to Talk About Race, Diversity, and Inequality in Schools.</p> <p>Dr. Mica Pollock Aqua 310A</p>	<p>Liberatory Leadership Flower Shop</p> <p>Dr. Julie Jhun + Dr. Roberta Benjamin Aqua 311A</p>	<p>Equity Amplified: Leading the Inclusive Classroom Evolution</p> <p>Dhalia Balmir Sapphire 400B</p>
<p>Inclusion is Everyone's Work</p> <p>Hayley Calhoun RUSD Sapphire 411A</p>	<p>Strengthening Leadership Through Research-Based Practices and Creating Transformational Change to Building your Career of Tomorrow</p> <p>Dr. Brigitte Blazys Aqua 305</p>	<p>Keep this Kid in My Class! Decision Making for Inclusivity</p> <p>Dr. Orletta Nguyen Sapphire 410B</p>
<p>Developing Deeper Meaningful and Engaged Classrooms</p> <p>Jordan Harrison Aqua 310B</p>		

Rotation II

COP Leadership for Classroom Practice	COP Leadership for Transformation	COP Leadership Wellness, Culture, Climate
<p>Early California Laws and Policies Related to California Indians</p> <p>'ataaxum Pomkwaan Aqua 314</p>	<p>Leading With Love for Liberation</p> <p>Jose Navarro Sapphire 410B</p>	<p>What Did You Just Say?! Using Compassionate Dialogue as a Protocol to Interrupt Implicit Bias and Discuss Tough Topics</p> <p>Myeshia Whigham Sapphire 410A</p>
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<p>Inclusion is Everyone's Work</p> <p>Hayley Calhoun RUSD Sapphire 411A</p>	<p>Leading for Equity with Habits of Mind Workshop</p> <p>Dr. Regina McDuffie Sapphire M</p>	<p>Equity Amplified: Leading the Inclusive Classroom Evolution</p> <p>Dhalia Balmir Sapphire 400B</p>



Rotation II Continued

**Developing Deeper
Meaningful and Engaged
Classrooms**

**Jordan Harrison
Aqua 310B**

**Liberatory Leadership
Flower Shop**

**Dr. Julie Jhun
+
Dr. Roberta Benjamin
Aqua 311A**

**Schooltalk in an Era
of Attempted
Restriction:
Continuing Student
Support Through
Our Efforts to Talk
About Race,
Diversity, and
Inequality in Schools.**

**Dr. Mica Pollock
Aqua 310A**

**Strengthening Leadership
Through Research-Based
Practices and Creating
Transformational Change to
Building your Career of
Tomorrow**

**Dr. Brigitte Blazys
Aqua 305**



Rotation III

<p>COP Leadership for Classroom Practice</p>	<p>COP Leadership for Transformation</p>	<p>COP Leadership Wellness, Culture, Climate</p>
<p>Early California Laws and Policies Related to California Indians</p> <p>'ataaxum Pomkwaan Aqua 314</p>	<p>Overcoming Negative Self-Talk for Leaders</p> <p>Dr. Mark Kabban Sapphire 411B</p>	<p>Keep this Kid in My Class! Decision Making for Inclusivity</p> <p>Dr. Orletta Nguyen Sapphire 410A</p>
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<p>Developing Deeper Meaningful and Engaged Classrooms</p> <p>Jordan Harrison Aqua 310B</p>	<p>Strengthening Leadership Through Research-Based Practices and Creating Transformational Change to Building Your Career of Tomorrow</p> <p>Dr. Brigitte Blazys Aqua 305</p>	<p>Schooltalk in an Era of Attempted Restriction: Continuing Student Support Through Our Efforts to Talk About Race, Diversity, and Inequality in Schools.</p> <p>Dr. Mica Pollock Aqua 310A</p>
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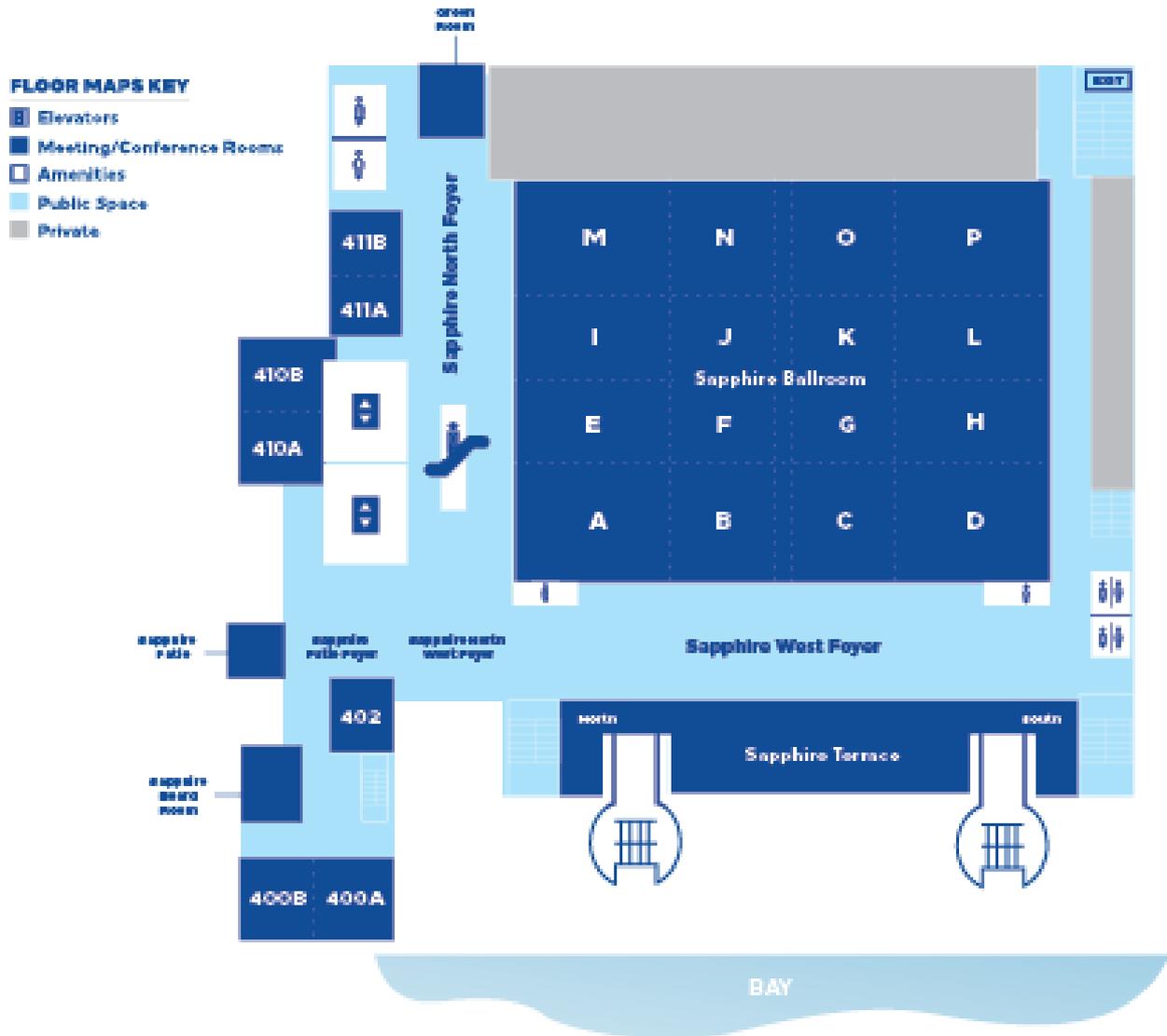
Sapphire Map - 4th Floor

Important Notes:

Registration - Located on 4th Floor

Sapphire ABEF - Ballroom for Main Session

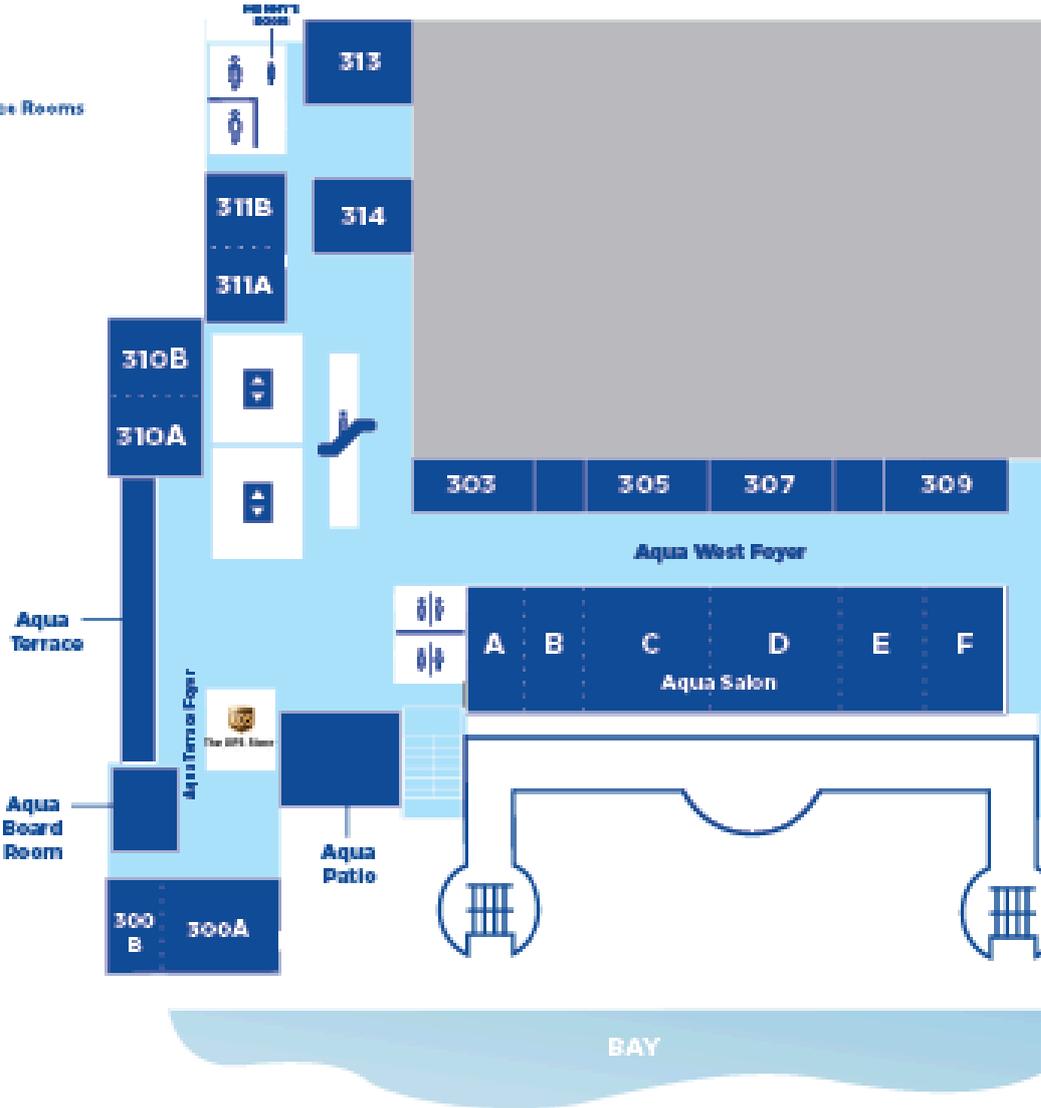
Sapphire Green Room - Wellness Space



Aqua Map - 3rd Floor

FLOOR MAPS KEY

-  Elevators
-  Meeting/Conference Rooms
-  Amenities
-  Public Space
-  Private



WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome, leaders, to A Gathering of Giants. My name is John Resendez with the Los Angeles Education Partnership (LAEP) and it is my honor to welcome you to the beautiful Hilton Bayside for two days of equity centered, justice forward learning in community with the Justice Giants from your community who are alongside you every day doing this critical work.

I am also very proud to serve as the Regional Director of the 21st Century Southern California Leadership Academy (21CSLA) for the region serving Orange, Riverside, San Bernadino, Imperial, and San Diego counties. This weekend's event launches our Communities of Practice. For those of whom this is your first 21CSLA event, we are excited to have you. For those that have participated in our 1:1 coaching, Localized Professional Learning, or other offerings, it is great to have you back and we are so grateful for your ongoing partnership.

I know that leadership can feel very lonely. However, while you are here at this gathering you are anything but alone. Of our many goals for this experience, we first wanted to bring talented and likeminded people together to witness the power that comes from creating intentional spaces around quality learning, collaboration, and processing. We also hope that you leave this experience reminded of how valued you are as leaders, educators, and human beings. That you are more than enough and worthy of the consistent investment in your personal and professional growth as well as the commitment to uplifting your physical and emotional wellbeing.

We know that we don't always operate in systems that fully realize our aspirations for what education should be. However, it is in moments like this one that we must come together and begin to imagine what comes next. We are giants and together we gather to claim what can and what will be. Thank you so much for being here, I hope this experience is everything you need it to be.

In solidarity,
John Reséndez
Director of CORE, LAEP
Regional Director, 21CSLA, SoCal Region





ABOUT US



The 21st Century California School Leadership Academy (21CSLA) provides high quality, equity-centered professional learning for educational leaders of schools and districts in California that receive Title II funds. Programs are no-cost to participants and include leadership coaching, as well as an emphasis on improving instruction and achievement outcomes (including through distance learning) for English Learners, students with disabilities, low income students, and other historically marginalized students.



The Los Angeles Educational Partnership (LAEP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming public education in Los Angeles County. Through collaborative efforts with schools, families, and communities, LAEP works to ensure that all students have access to high-quality education that prepares them for success in college, career, and life. LAEP's initiatives encompass a wide range of programs and services designed to address the diverse needs of students and schools.

OUR GOAL

Welcome to A Gathering of Giants, where education leaders convene to spark change and drive progress towards a more equitable future. In this dynamic event, our primary goal is to address the pressing needs of the education community by empowering leaders with essential tools to ignite meaningful dialogue and inspire action.

At the heart of our mission is a firm commitment to educational equity. We believe fervently that every student deserves access to a high-quality education, regardless of their background or circumstances. By breaking down systemic barriers and amplifying the voices of marginalized communities, we aim to level the educational playing field, ensuring every learner has the opportunity to thrive.

A Gathering of Giants serves as a vibrant hub for dialogue and collaboration among leaders from diverse backgrounds and communities of practice. Through immersive workshops, engaging panel discussions, and valuable networking opportunities, participants engage in robust conversations, exchange best practices, and forge enduring connections.

Our aim is not just to discuss challenges but to equip leaders with tangible tools and strategies to drive meaningful change within their spheres of influence. From innovative pedagogical approaches to inclusive curriculum design, attendees gain practical insights and resources to enact positive transformation within their schools and communities. Central to our mission is addressing the needs of marginalized communities. By centering their voices and experiences, we strive to create inclusive learning environments that empower all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or ability.

We recognize that true progress requires continuous growth and accountability. Through reflective practices and data-driven approaches, we encourage leaders to assess their impact, adapt their strategies, and hold themselves and their institutions accountable for fostering equitable learning opportunities for all students.

**“Leaders who do not act dialogically, but insist on imposing their decisions, do not organize the people-
-they manipulate them. They do not liberate, nor are they liberated: they oppress.”**

— Paulo Freire, Pedagogy of the Oppressed

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Anthony Jackson, Keynote Speaker

K-12 Design Strategist

Anthony Jackson is the Founder and K-12 Design Strategist for Anthese education, a nascent education consulting concern committed to comprehensive, holistic school improvement. Mr. Jackson previously served as Director, Community School Transformation in the Los Angeles Unified School District 's Local District West. In that capacity, he led principals in advancing the response transformation of their schools to empower and elevate learning outcomes for African American students.



Ami Admire

Director 'ataaxum Pomkwaan

Ami Admire, Payomkawichum and director at 'ataaxum Pomkwaan, will present with members of the 'ataaxum team, whose collective efforts were awarded the 2019 National Indian Health Board Impact Award for making a difference in their communities.



Andrea Gaspar

Community Organizer

Operating as a community organizer in the border region between San Diego and Tijuana, situated on Kumeyaay territory, Andrea demonstrates deep engagement in grassroots activism and advocacy. Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies at the University of California San Diego, academic pursuits intersect with practical efforts to effect meaningful change in our communities.

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Dr. Julie Jhun

CSU Dominguez Hills

Dr. Julie Jhun is currently an Assistant Professor at California State University Dominguez Hills and the Graduate Program Director for the School Leadership Program. Her 20+ year journey as an educator began as a Teach for America teacher and then as a principal of a public charter high school in Los Angeles for over ten years. She is a strong advocate for social justice and positive behavioral reinforcement in schools, and her research interests are around school leadership and the retention and sustainability of school administrators.



Dr. Roberta Benjamin Edwards

CSU Dominguez Hills

Dr. Roberta Benjamin Edwards is currently a Professor of School Leadership and Teacher Education at California State University Dominguez Hills. She also coaches principals and district leaders. She is a retired teacher, principal, and director from Los Angeles Unified School District.



Dr. Brigitte Blazys

CEO of Wahupa Educational Services,

Dr. Brigitte Blazys is the CEO of Wahupa Educational Services, which is a San Diego nonprofit organization that empowers over 3,500+ students annually to pursue higher education and fulfill their dream careers. By applying leadership theory into practice, Brigitte's mission is to provide empirical knowledge and support for students to create and build a rewarding career.

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Dr. Mark Kabban

Examined Leadership Collective

Dr. Mark N. Kabban is a social entrepreneur, executive coach, and educator specializing in leadership development and team dynamics. Mark designs and facilitates constructivist learning experiences for principals, emerging managers, organizations, and graduate students that build the critical sensibilities for leading complex organizations.



Dr. Mica Pollock

University of California San Diego

Mica has spent decades working to create talk tools that help people work toward antiracism and equity in schools. Research has long made clear that to support all students' learning, skill-building, and basic belonging in school, educators must build skills for talking about experiences of diversity and inequality in our society, lives, and schools.



H. Orletta Nguyễn

Educational Leadership

H. "Orletta" Nguyen, Ed.D. has been an educator since 1997. Dr. Nguyen has been a teacher, school psychologist, and administrator for students ranging from a variety of backgrounds and skill levels; her students have been drawn from special education, English Language Development, and Gifted and Talented Education in the pre-k to post-secondary levels.

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Dr. Regina McDuffie

Educational Leadership

Dr. Regina McDuffie is a passionate and dedicated educator with over 25 years of experience in fostering transformative leadership and promoting equity within educational settings. As a certified Habits of Mind trainer, Dr. McDuffie brings a unique blend of expertise in educational leadership, equity, and the practical application of the essential Habits of Mind.



Haley Calhoun

Educational Leadership

Hayley Calhoun is a 35 year veteran in RUSD who has served in many leadership roles in both certificated and classified positions. She has led new school openings, building of a new department of Professional Growth and currently is serving as the Director of Special Education.



Jordan Harrison

Educational Leadership

Our conditions are NOT our conclusions." Jordan Harrison is a professional speaker, DEI consultant, and international youth development specialist born in Chicago, IL. He earned his BS from San Diego State and his Master in Education from Harvard University. Most importantly, he is a disruptor to make a difference. He lives a mission-driven life focused on eradicating inequality with the constant reminder of our collective shared humanity.

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Jose Navarro

Educational Leadership

Jose Luis Navarro was an Administrative Director at the largest Title One charter high school in California. Prior to assuming this role Mr. Navarro was the Local District Northeast Support Coordinator, in Los Angeles Unified School District, where he organized innovative reform efforts in the lowest-performing schools in the district. Mr. Navarro considers his role as the founding principal of the Social Justice Humanitas Academy to be some of the most important work he has done as an educator. The Social Justice Humanitas Academy was the 2015 National Community School Award winner, and the 2015 Teacher Powered Schools National Award winner for Academic Excellence.



Mick Rabin

Educational Leadership

Mick Rabin (he/him) taught in the classroom for 21 years. For the past 8 years, he's been a project resource teacher and counselor in the Youth Advocacy Department in San Diego Unified (and has served as a GLSEN San Diego board member for nearly 25 years), Mick provides direct student and educator support, has built a bullying intervention program for improving school climate at multiple schools, and facilitates numerous PDs that explore resourceful ways for promoting identity exploration and accurate representation through a curricular lens.



Myeshia Whigham

Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Advocate

Myeshia Whigham is currently in her 19th year as an educator serving K-12 students and has experience as an assistant principal and teacher at local public, charter, and adult schools in San Diego County. Myeshia received her undergraduate degree at California State University, San Marcos, and went on to attend several local universities, including San Diego State, where she earned her Administrative Services Credential. Myeshia is passionate about students and educational equity and currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Education for Social Justice at the University of San Diego.

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Sally Stevens, LCSW
Mental Health Advocate

Sally Stevens, LCSW uses humor and a pinch of New York City directness to destigmatize mental health. She embarked on her career journey seventeen years ago within the Los Angeles Unified School District, initially as a dedicated school social worker. Her dedication to promoting mental health and mindfulness is evident through her published works, including two insightful workbooks tailored for teens.



Abdul-Rehman Mohammed Issa
Processor

Abdul-Rehman Mohammed Issa holds a Masters in School Leadership from CSU-Dominguez Hills and is pursuing his PhD, in Education Studies, at UC-San Diego. In his career as an educator, he has been a special education teacher, and school administrator. He holds a deep belief that educators are the builders of a just, equitable, and liberatory future befitting of the generations to come.



Dahalia Balmir
Educational Leadership

Dhalia Balmir is a seasoned professional in restorative justice and an inspiring leadership coach with a strong dedication to fostering communication and enabling profound transformation. With a fervent commitment to breaking down systemic obstacles and advocating for educational equity, she guides individuals and groups towards genuine development. Holding a Masters in Leadership and presently pursuing a PhD in Education for Social Justice at the University of San Diego, she is deeply invested in advancing equitable education practices.

Affirmations for Educational Leaders

- Your dedication to equity inspires positive change and fosters an inclusive learning environment.
- Your commitment to justice-centered education empowers students to advocate for themselves and others.
- Your leadership cultivates a culture of respect, acceptance, and belonging for all students and staff.
- Your advocacy for equitable resources and opportunities ensures that every student has the support they need to succeed.
- Your courageous conversations about systemic inequities spark meaningful dialogue and drive progress toward a more just society.
- Your unwavering belief in the potential of every student fuels their confidence and resilience in the face of challenges.
- Your collaborative approach to decision-making amplifies diverse voices and perspectives, enriching the educational experience for all.
- Your continuous self-reflection and growth model a commitment to lifelong learning and cultural responsiveness.
- Your celebration of cultural diversity and identity affirms the value and worth of each individual within the school community.
- Your vision for equity-driven education inspires others to join the movement toward transformative change in our schools and society.



WORKSHOPS





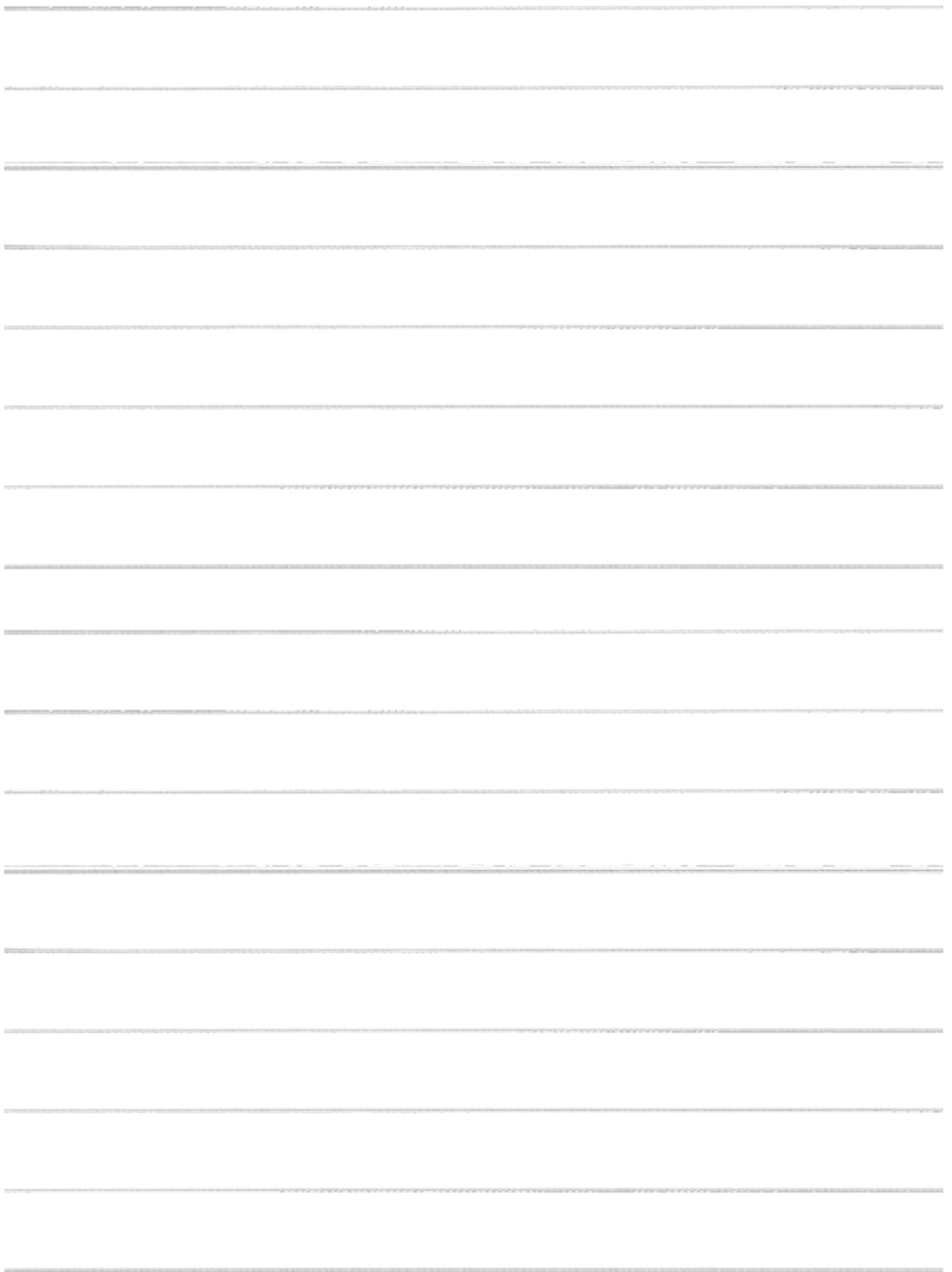
KEEP THIS KID IN MY CLASS!

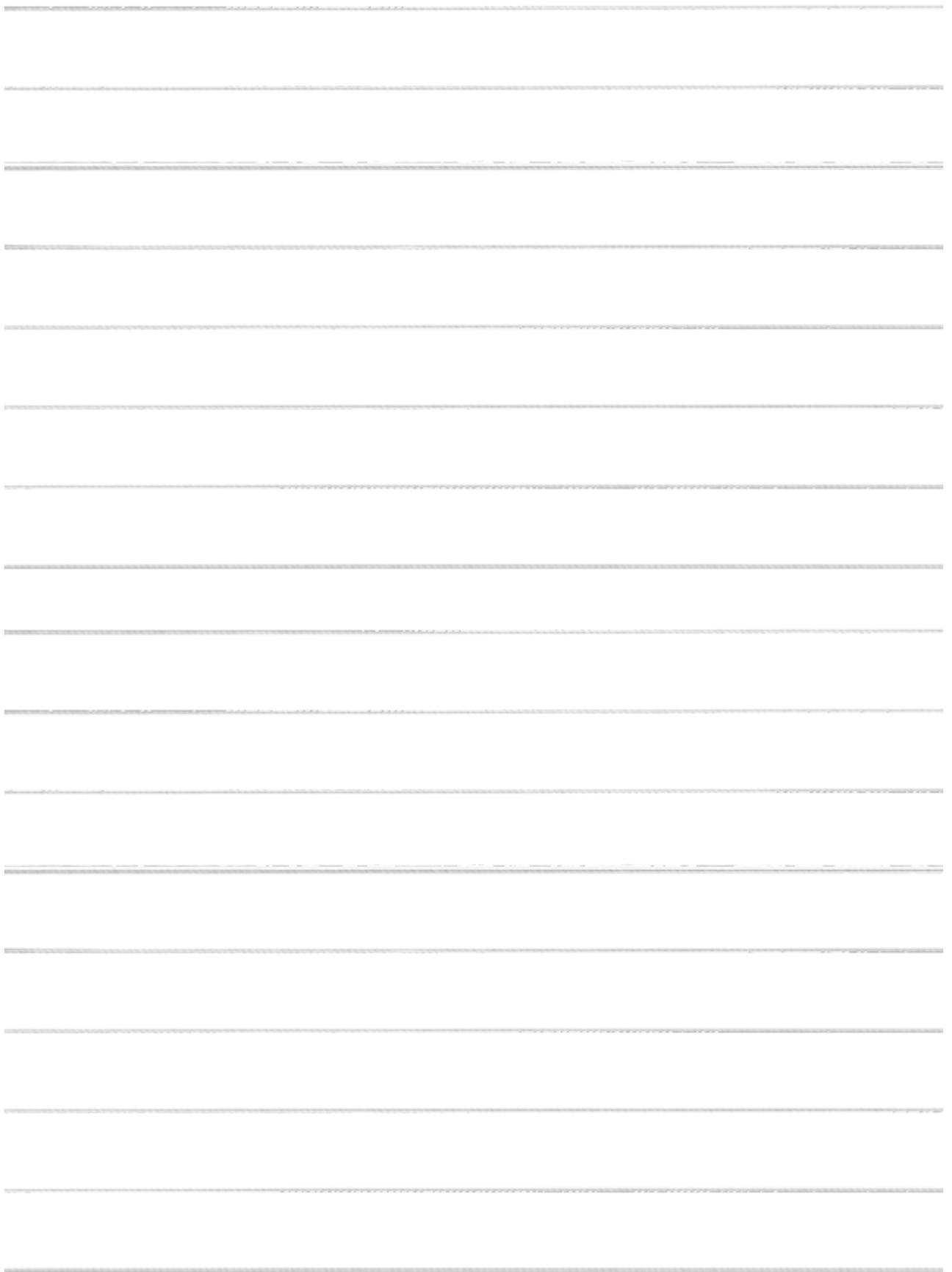
LRE DECISION MAKING FOR INCLUSIVITY

Dr. Orletta Nguyễn

Participants will learn the legal criteria for determining a student's least restrictive environment based on special education caselaw. Participants will also understand the myriad of factors that impact decision making for determining a student's least restrictive environment. Participants will conduct a self audit of the existing state of LRE determination in their organizations to the ideal state. The aims of the self audit are to brainstorm and generate interventions to move organizations towards equity focused LRE discussions and determinations.

Notes







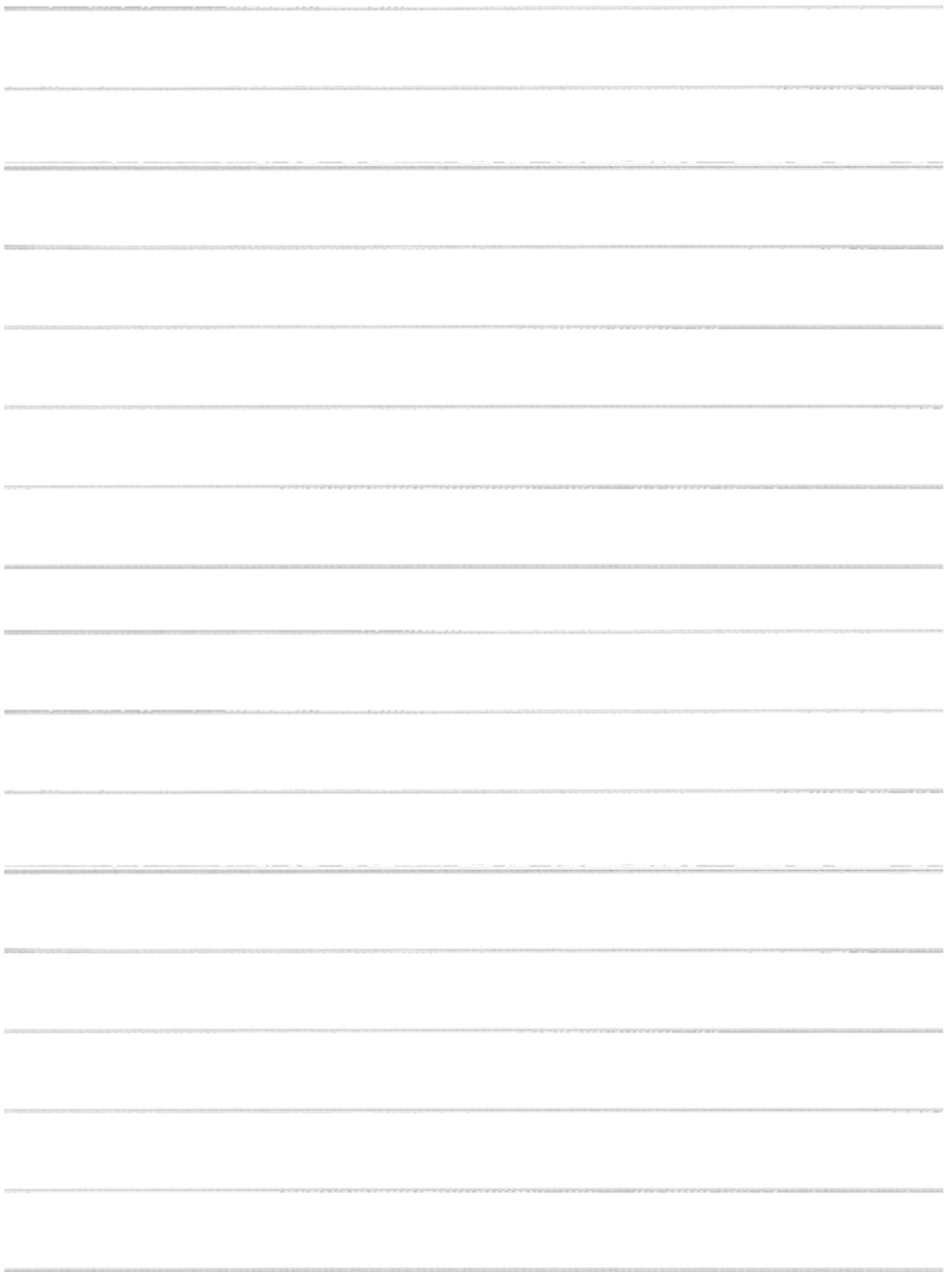
WORKSHOP

LIBERATORY LEADERSHIP FLOWER SHOP

Dr. Julie Jhun + Dr. Roberta Benjamin Edwards

How can we as leaders, be of more influence and create the conditions for our people to grow? Join us to gain a bouquet of ideas to use in your work. This workshop will explore the research on brain neuroscience as a foundation for the importance of building trust and building community as a leader. Participants will leave with a group of community builders and during the session will explore how and when to use them in different situations and with various stakeholders. Finally, participants will be introduced to a new way of looking at and implementing California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (The CPSELs) through the lens of critical race theory. You will take with you from this session new ways of working and blooming in whatever capacity of leadership you serve

Notes





STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP THROUGH RESEARCH-BASED PRACTICES AND CREATING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE TO BUILDING YOUR CAREER OF TOMORROW

Dr. Bridgette Blazy

By building knowledge on research-based best practices to exploring different leadership theories and frameworks, this session will provide a detailed blueprint to effectively apply theory to practice by creating transformational change. Research suggests that “only about half of U.S. workers say they are extremely or very satisfied with their job overall” (Pew Research Center survey, 2023). This workshop will begin to explore a model of personal well-being that emphasizes leadership theories and research methods to meet performance and morale benchmarks. You will strengthen your passion for education and build a toolkit to rediscover your ‘Why.’ This session will connect your mind, body, and soul back to your identity and true mission to create a more satisfying career.

Notes



This is a critical juncture in our history. Many young people of color in economically underdeveloped communities are becoming deeply rooted in personal and academic dormancy that interrupts their ability to invest in our fast-moving, ever-changing, increasingly demanding world.

— Alfred W. Tatum

solution

education

WORKSHOP

practice

knowledge

OVERCOMING NEGATIVE SELF TALK

Dr. Mark Kabban

Giving in to negative and disorienting self-talk can impact our ability to lead, develop healthy relationships, and cause us to fold under pressure. This workshop aims to reconnect leaders to the tools we're already equipped with and make our inner voice work for us. The conversations we have with ourselves influence our behaviors and ability to lead from our whole selves.

Notes





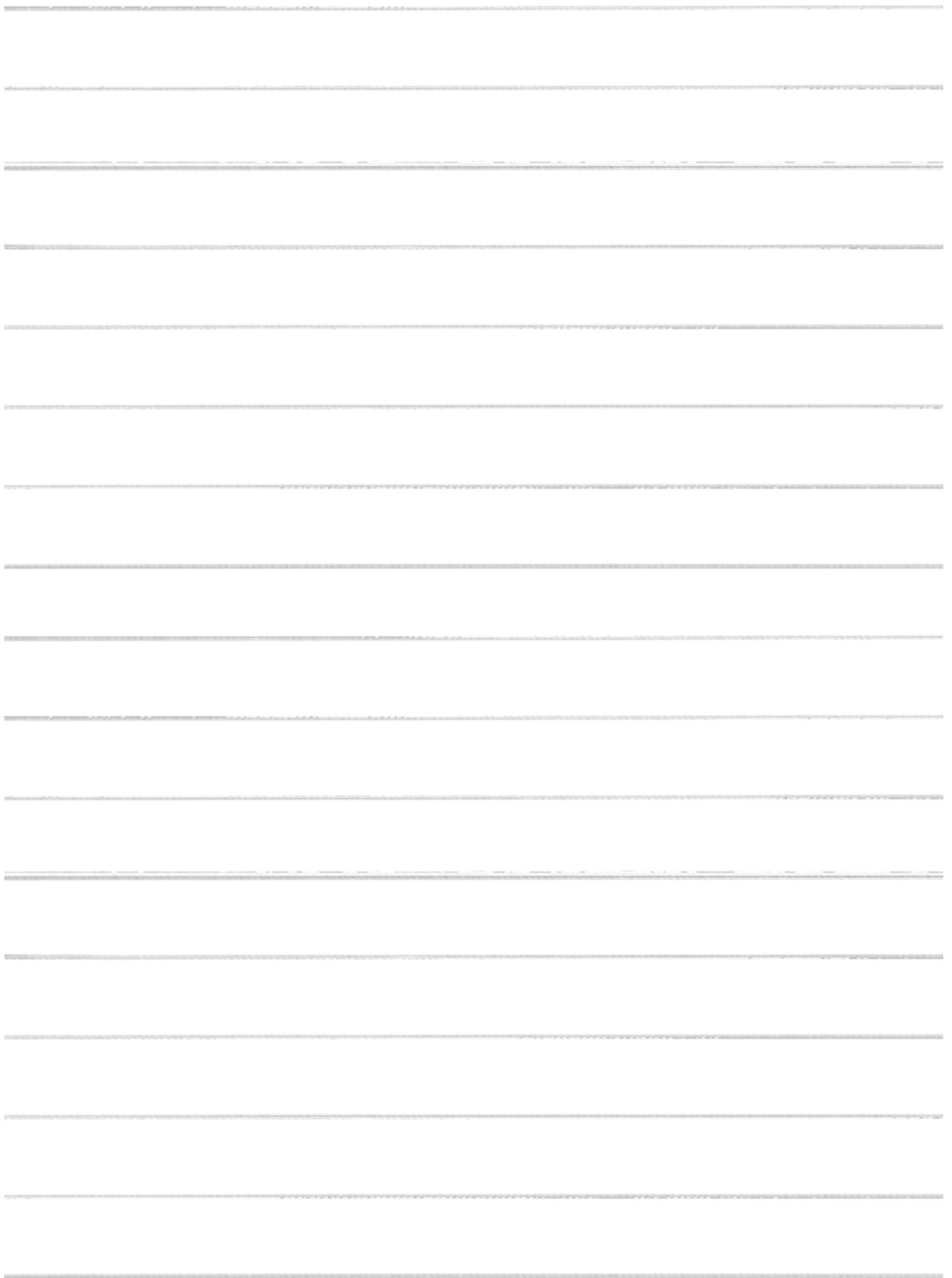
Workshop

LEADING FOR EQUITY WITH HABITS OF MIND

Dr. Regina McDuffie

Unlock the transformative power of leadership through the lens of equity in our "Leading for Equity with Habits of Mind" workshop. In this engaging and interactive session, participants will explore the Habits of Mind—a set of dispositions essential for effective leadership—and discover how these habits can serve as a powerful catalyst for advancing equity in their school communities.

Notes



So those are the four pivots, the pivot from lens to mirror, a pivot from transactional to transformative relationships, a pivot from problem to possibility and then the last is a pivot from hustle to flow and all of these pivots are woven together like a braid. In order to do mirror work you have to have flow.

-Shawn A. Ginwright, *The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves*



Workshop

SCHOOL TALK IN AN ERA OF ATTEMPTED RESTRICTION: CONTINUING STUDENT SUPPORT THROUGH OUR EFFORTS TO TALK ABOUT RACE, DIVERSITY, AND INEQUALITY IN SCHOOLS.

Dr. Mica Pollock

Mica has spent decades working to create talk tools that help people work toward antiracism and equity in schools. Research has long made clear that to support all students' learning, skill-building, and basic belonging in school, educators must build skills for talking about experiences of diversity and inequality in our society, lives, and schools. But in a nationally networked "Conflict Campaign," politicians and organizations are targeting such everyday school talk about and with students. New research shows educators now experiencing broad threats to talking about race and LGBTQ lives in schools, given threatened punishment by critics for discussing these topics. While some educators and students now enjoy support and freedom in race and diversity-related discussion and learning, others across the country are experiencing intensive restriction efforts emanating from local, state, and national pressures.

Notes



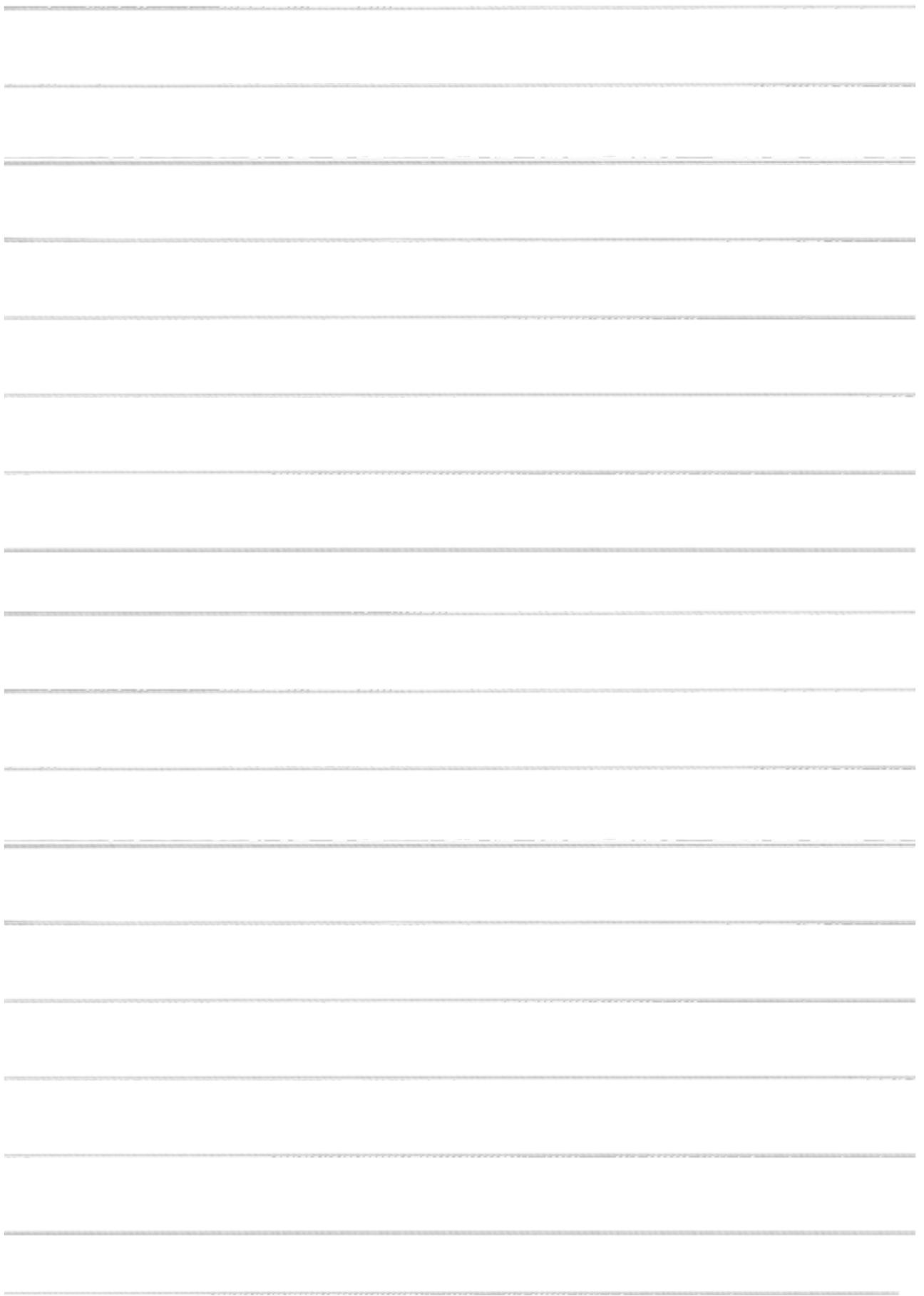


INCLUSION IS EVERYONE'S WORK

Hayley Calhoun

RUSD is forward thinking on how to support its teaching staff in inclusive practices by starting from the inside out by building the capacity of the classroom teachers. Gone are the excuses of not having been trained to provide support and modifications to "Let me show you how" RUSD has developed an Inclusive Practices Specialist position to bring training, model lessons, and coaching into the classrooms of those who support our students with IEPs in the General Education setting. Currently serving TK-6 with a focus on moving into the secondary schools, come and share in our journey, our why and our successes.

Notes



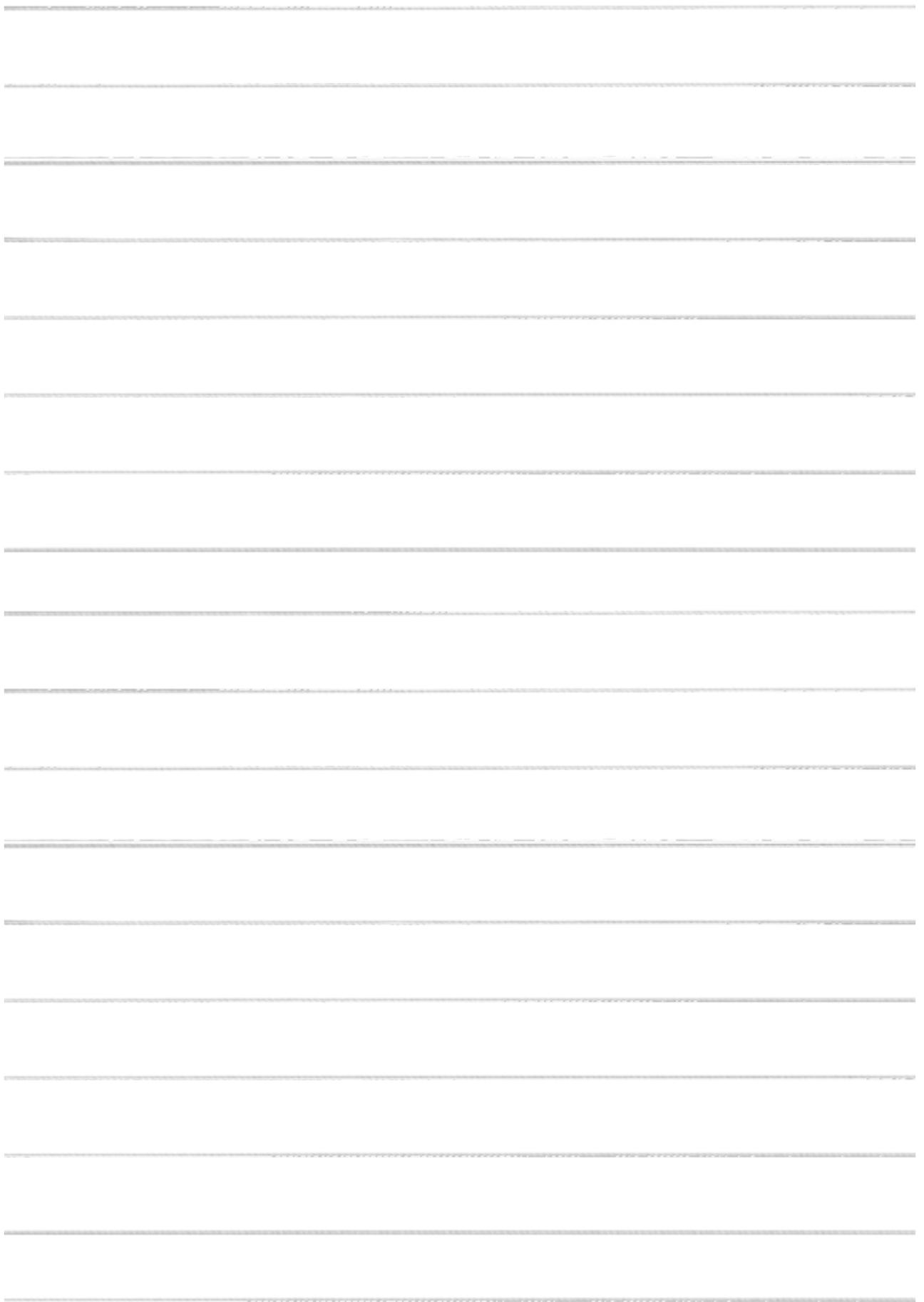


DEVELOPING DEEPER MEANINGFUL AND ENGAGED CLASSROOMS

Jordan Harrison

Through learning science, and motivational theory we will explore elements and researched based practices that create deeper meaning and engagement for students. Participants will explore three critical student motivational theories and best practices to engage students and families in the educational journey with a particular focus on underrepresented students.

Notes





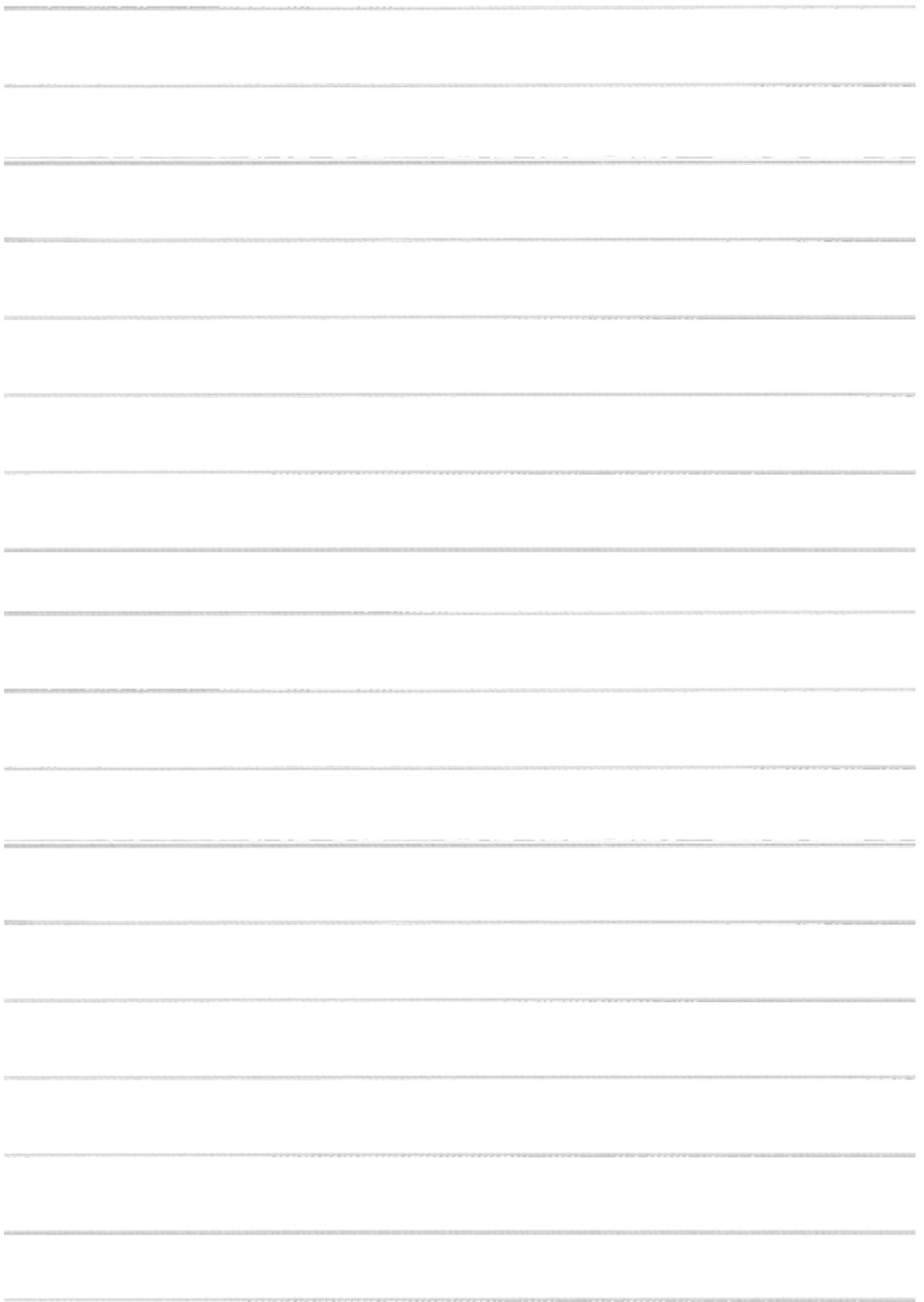
LEADING WITH LOVE FOR LIBERATION

Jose Navarro

We all say we love our students, but what does love look like on your campus?

What values and skills do you want to cultivate within each of your students and staff? Does your vision, mission, and operations reflect those values? How do you systematize your values? Are we asking our students to be good students or good people? While we want our students to do well academically, there is much argument from employers that "soft skills" may be more vital than hard skills. While technology and curriculum will change, the need for compassion, empathy, integrity will not. Do the systems in our schools foster those values? By making genuine connections with students and staff, you will unlock the key to shifting your school or district's culture.

Notes



WORKSHOP

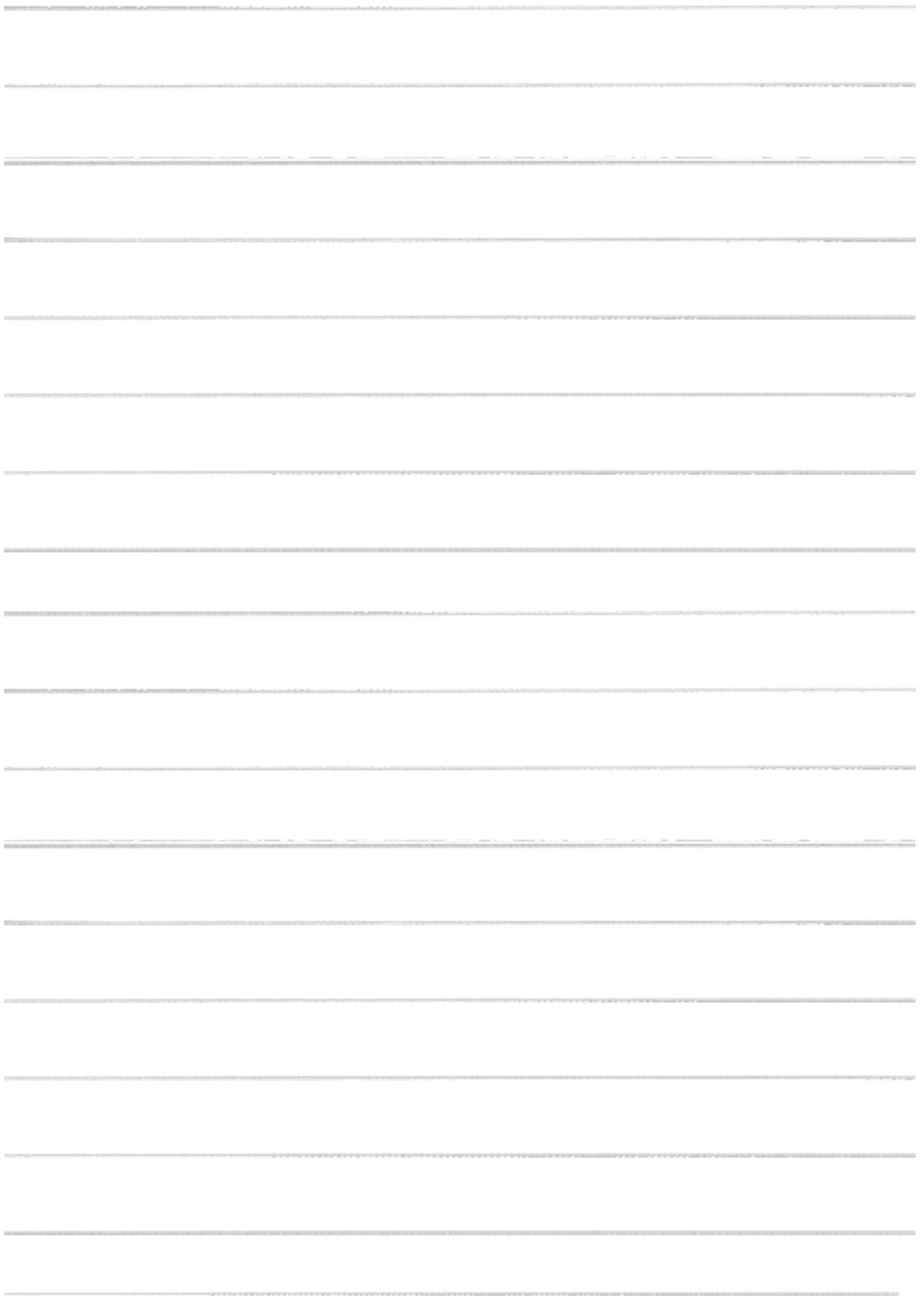


FAIR & SQUARE – LEVERAGING TEXT FOR REPRESENTATION IN K-12 CURRICULUM

Mick Rabin

Educators will learn and practice hands-on/teacher-tested methods for promoting representation in the classroom. They will practice, co-create, and assemble a simulated "text-talk" that can be implemented immediately into a classroom literature or social studies discussion and applied as a culturally responsive strategy across innumerable texts & media. Accounting for the realities and demands of daily instruction, educators will build upon their working knowledge of texts (of all varieties) as opportunities to broaden student awareness of diversity, promote respectful and accurate representation, and inspire youth agency in building a more equitable and inclusive school space. Educators will walk away with book lists that they themselves co-create, strategies that allow their students to "humanize" their classmates, and best practices for all of their students to see themselves reflected accurately in the curriculum.

Notes



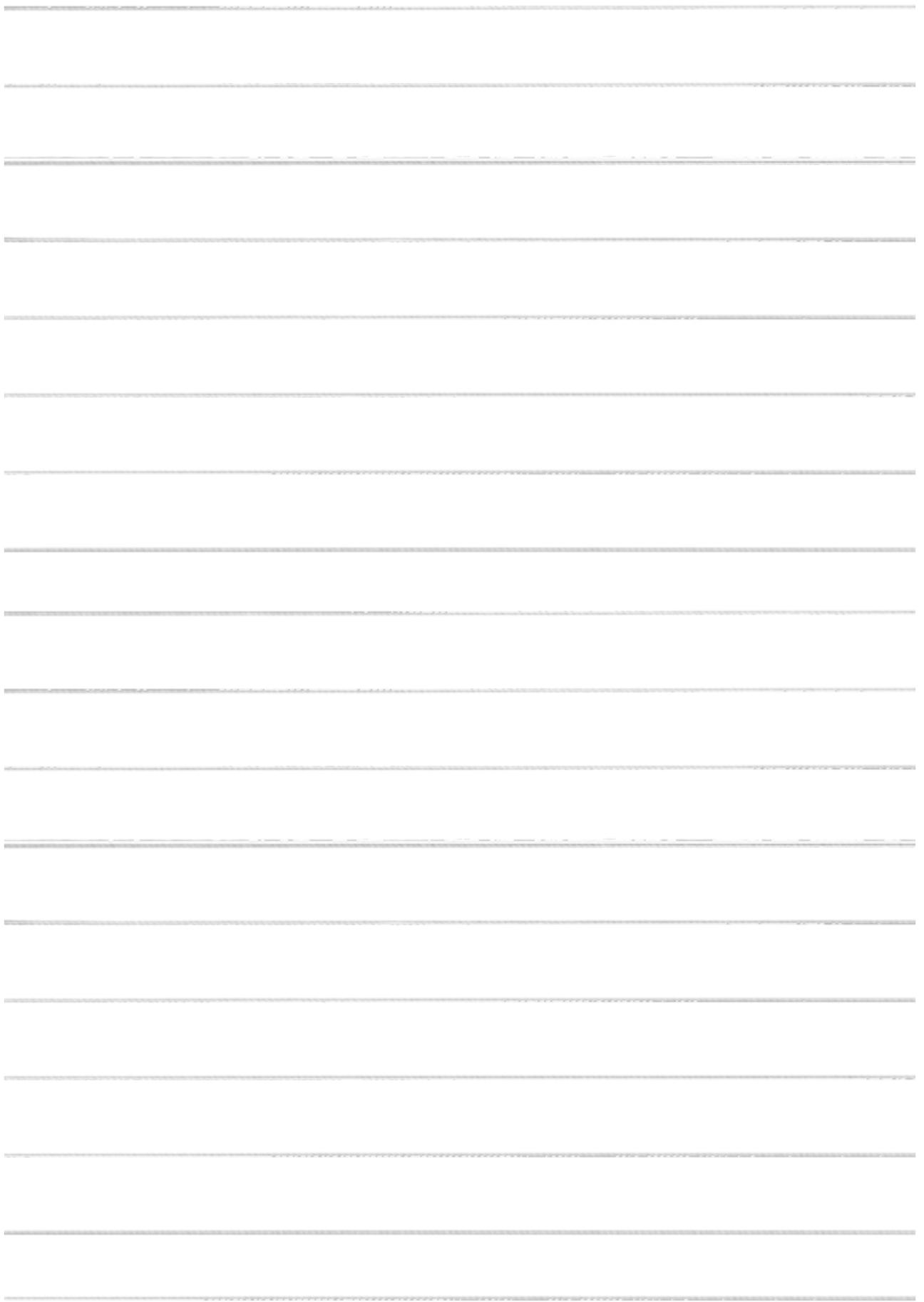


WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!

Myeshia Whigham

Using Compassionate Dialogue as a Protocol to Interrupt Implicit Bias and Discuss Tough Topics. Have you ever found yourself at a loss for words when faced with a comment that challenges equity and inclusion in our schools? Implicit (unconscious) bias, subtle racism, and microaggressions are all upheld in our schools and classrooms, affecting the educational experiences of students. Dr. Nancy Dome, founder of Epoch Education, suggests, "We talk about people because we don't talk to people." Her "Compassionate Dialogue" tool helps people with a protocol called "Recognize, Interrupt, Repair." Participants will learn how we've introduced it as a districtwide practice to shift perspectives, interrupt implicit (unconscious) bias, and engage in conversations around tough topics.

Notes



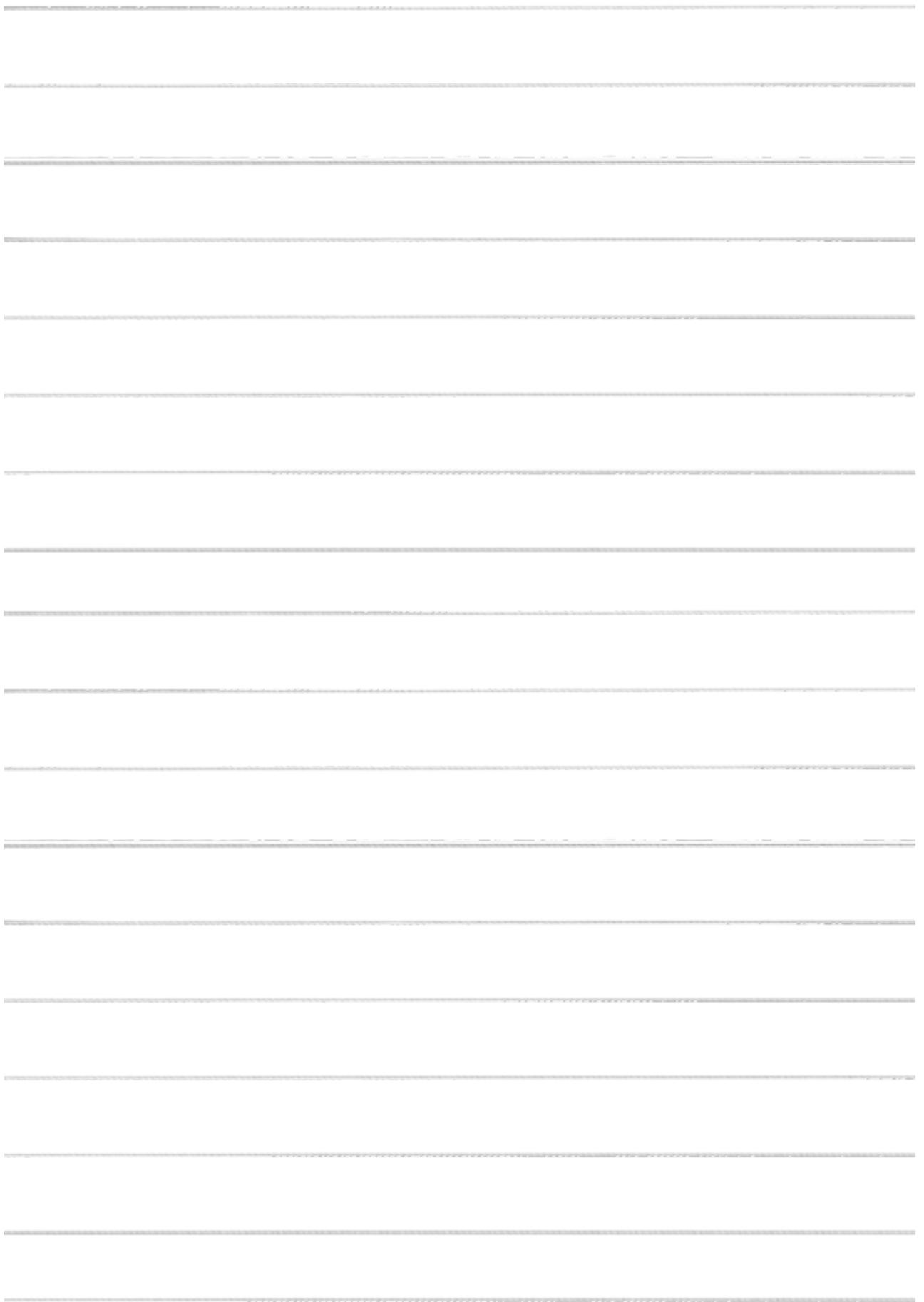


BALANCING THE BOOKS: A TIME-OUT FOR SCHOOL LEADERS - MASTERING THE ART OF SELF-CARE AND DODGING BURNOUT LIKE A PROCRASTINATION EXPERT!

Sally Stevens, LCSW

Prioritize self-empathy over resilience as a leader. Self-care, often neglected and shamed as educators, is an ethical imperative. Avoid martyrdom; embrace your humanity's need for strategic care that genuinely replenishes your well-being rather than avoiding the hard emotions we feel as the caretaker for someone's whole universe.

Notes



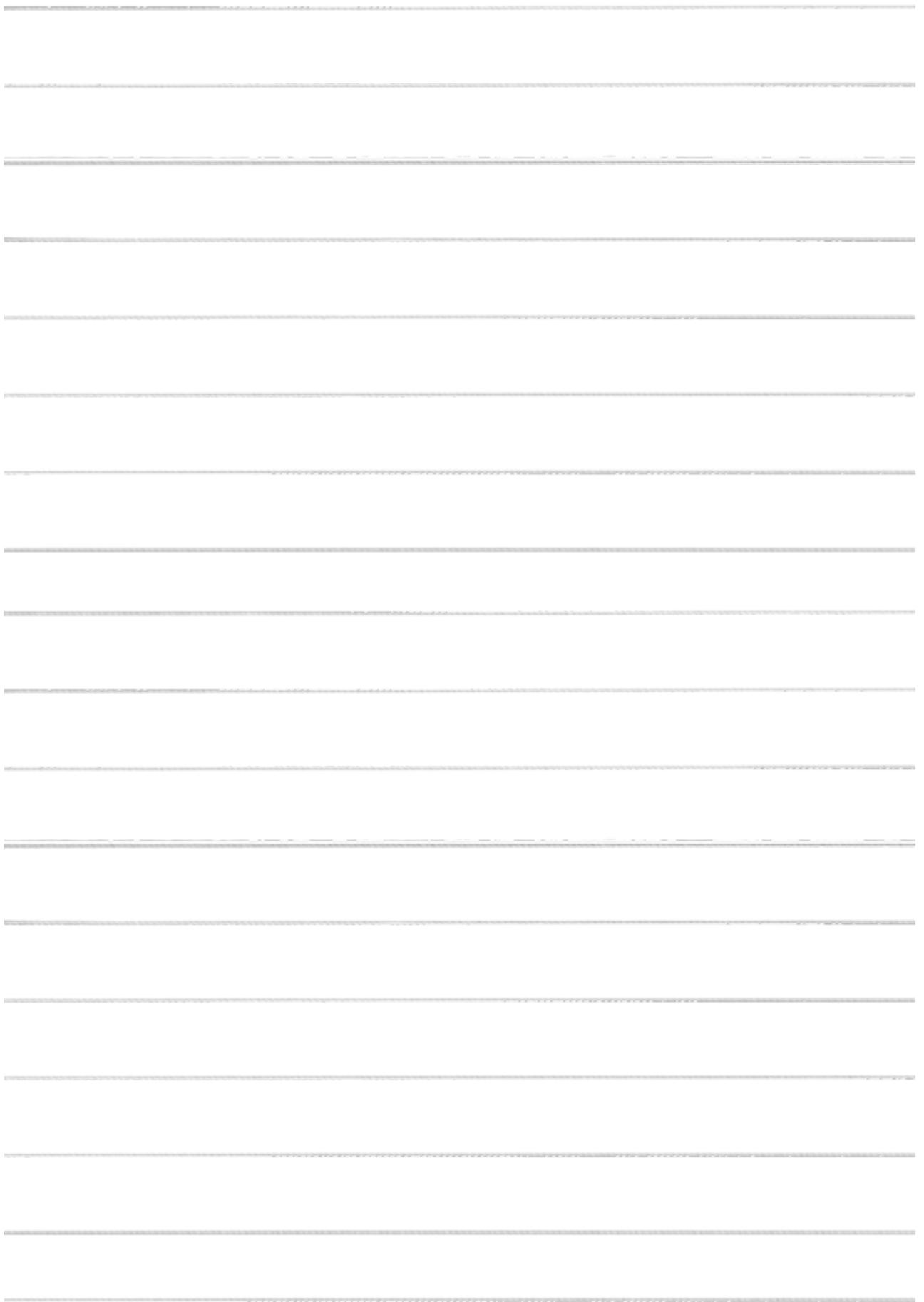


EQUITY AMPLIFIED: LEADING THE INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM EVOLUTION
ARE YOU READY TO CHAMPION AN EDUCATIONAL REVOLUTION WHERE EQUITY IS
CENTERED AND EVERY VOICE IS HEARD, EVERY STUDENT THRIVES, AND EQUITY
ECHOS THROUGH YOUR CLASSROOMS AND BEYOND?

Dhalia Balmir

This dynamic workshop ignites your leadership journey towards building truly inclusive learning environments and to empower educators to champion equity and inclusivity in education. In this dynamic session, participants will explore innovative strategies and best practices for cultivating a truly inclusive learning environment where every student, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds, feels valued, heard, and supported. Through engaging and reflective discussions, activities, and practical tools, you'll explore the essential components of an equity-centered leadership culture.

Notes



Doodling is Powerful

Doodling is Powerful



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU!

21CSLA and LAEP would like to give a big thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that every aspect of the event ran smoothly. Your countless hours of planning, coordination, and execution did not go unnoticed, and it is because of your commitment that we were able to create such a memorable experience for all involved.

We would like express our sincere appreciation to our vendors: Attaxum PomKwaan, For the People, The Well Pasadena, The Sketch Effect, Amy Evans, Portraits by Tracylynn Williams and Skyler and Carole King. Your support and partnership were invaluable, and your products and services added an extra dimension of excellence to our event.

Together, we have created something truly special—a space where ideas were exchanged, connections were forged, and memories were made. We are incredibly proud of what we have accomplished, and we are filled with gratitude for each and every one of you who played a part, no matter how big or small. As we reflect on the success of this event, let us carry forward the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and community that defined it. May we continue to inspire and uplift one another in all our future endeavors.



WE ARE JUSTICE GIANTS



