

# Turning Point School

## Tenets of an Anti-Racist Curriculum

*To establish an anti-racist curriculum, it is imperative that lessons around racial identity are integrated fluidly throughout the curriculum, rather than taught separately from the day-to-day curriculum, in addition to lessons about diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.*

### Essential Questions:

- How do we stand up for what is right?
- How do we make our society more equitable?
- What does it mean to truly belong?
- What can we learn from history to make a better future?

### Literature Guidelines

- Promote BIPOC voices in fiction and nonfiction
  - Literature should be well written, age-appropriate, and BIPOC characters should not always be victims
- Include books that go beyond slavery and the civil rights
- Address related racism, bias, privilege, and relevant historical events in class. Do not assume all students have the prior knowledge to autonomously process and evaluate these complex issues in literature.
- Engage parents/guardians in conversations about literature selections

### Social Studies Guidelines

- Teach BIPOC history in every historical unit
- Attempt to strike a balance between the history of oppression and the celebration of culture/changemakers in order to not victimize groups nor impede student understanding of history
- Point out examples of stereotypes and racism in media
- Point out examples of positive representation in media
- Address America's foundation in white supremacy and the resulting systemic racism that exists at every level of society
  - Teach children that skin color affects how people are viewed, and that white privilege is a result of historical and enduring racism and bias
  - Give children contextual understanding of privilege
  - As is developmentally appropriate, define differences between systemic racism vs. personal racist attitudes

- As is developmentally appropriate, investigate examples of systemic racism and its effects on BIPOC
- Promote BIPOC voices

### **Science, Math, and Technology Guidelines**

- Discuss representation of BIPOC in the fields of science and math
- Teach students to critically evaluate statistics
- Encourage students to think critically about factors that influence the gathering of information
- Engage students in discussions about ethics related to scientific research and data throughout history
- Promote BIPOC voices in the STEM fields
- Explore the impact of technology/social media on change/activism

### **Social-Emotional Learning**

- Make space for conversations about racial injustice
- Encourage and support identity expression and exploration
- Encourage students to speak up and confront racial injustice
- Model and encourage leaning into discomfort

