

Happy Thursday Colonial Nation-

Hard to believe we are officially at our mid-year mark tomorrow! As most years, this year is moving quickly. We hope you are finding success in the classroom with your students and seeing growth!

Sincerely,

The District Leadership Council

Important Information

Staff Update: [1/12/23](#)

Dates to Know:

Equity Event: Community, Connections, and Conversations: 1/19/23

Board Meeting 2/7/23 (not our usual second Tuesday of the month)

Staff Development: 2/17/23

Schools and Offices Closed: 2/20/23

EPER payments on 2/10/23 check:

The winter EPER payment is scheduled to be made on the February 10 paycheck, please be sure your EPER contracts have been entered, accepted, and approved by Thursday, January 26th. If the contract is not completed by January 26th, it will not be paid until the next EPER payment on June 2, 2023.

W2s

W2s are now available in Employee Self Service!

For assistance accessing your W2:

<http://www.colonialschooldistrict.org/employees/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/01/Accessing-your-W2.pdf>

For assistance reading your W2:

<http://www.colonialschooldistrict.org/employees/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/01/Understanding-your-W2.pdf>

Both are located on the District's Employees Pay website along with other helpful information and commonly used forms.

<http://www.colonialschoolsdistrict.org/employees/your-employment/pay/>

Equity ERA: Engage-Reflect-Act

- **Engage:** Check out this podcast series from Elena Aguilar, "*What to Say When Someone Says Something Racist*" - [It's Complex: What to Say as a Person of Color](#) (about 29 min)
 - Each week we will share the next podcast! Tune into the series with us!
- **Reflect:** How do you respond when you hear something racist? What do you wish you would do (or had done) something differently?
- **Act:** Check out Elena's guide for [What To Say When You Hear Something Racist](#) and try a strategy.

Join our District Wide Equity Book Club!

- **When:** The first Tuesday of the month (Feb-June)
- **Time:** 4:30-5:30pm
- **Where:** Zoom
- **Books:** The 3 books we received as a district earlier this year:
 - *Ratchetdemic* (Dr. Chris Emdin)
 - *For White Folks Who Teach in the Hood... and the Rest of Y'all Too: Reality Pedagogy and Urban Education* (Dr. Chris Emdin)
 - *Leading Equity* (Dr. Sheldon Eakins)
- [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to register!

Are YOU a Mr. Jensen?

Take a moment to view [this video](#) about an AMAZING teacher named Mr. Jensen. Mr. Jensen, like educators in Colonial, was able to recognize the strengths and talents within the students in his class and in doing so, changed a young boy's life.

It's not said nearly enough how important the relationships formed between teachers and students impact student learning. **Thank you for dedicating countless hours to encouraging and supporting our students in Colonial!**

WE Recruit!

Save the dates (February 4th and March 18th) and mark your calendars for the **AREA Recruitment Fairs!** This is a great opportunity to learn more about opportunities in the district! Colonial will be present at the Ocean City and Middletown events. If you know of someone who is interested in working in the district, share [this flyer](#) with them.

WE Retain! Are you a Delaware educator or paraeducator working with multilingual learners (English learners)? If so, this is an opportunity for YOU!

The University of Delaware is now accepting [applications](#) for Project DELITE (Delaware English Learners' Impact on Teacher Education). Under this grant, we will provide a route, *at no cost*, to Teacher of English Learners or Bilingual Teacher certification for 60 educators and 15 paraprofessionals over the next five years.

Please see [this flyer](#) for more details about the project and the application process.

To apply:

- Please complete the [online application form](#)
- Ask an administrator, supervisor, MLL coordinator, or EL/MLL teacher to complete the [recommendation form](#)

Deadlines:

- February 10: early deadline for applications
- February 27: final deadline for applications
- Successful applicants will be invited to complete a consent form and confirm participation. Please complete the form within 10 days of receipt.
- Mid-March: participants will be randomly assigned to Cohort 1, 2, or 3.

For more information, please attend a webinar! Register for one of these sessions:

- [Thursday, January 26th at 5pm](#)
- [Tuesday, January 31st at 7pm](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Forrest, DELITE Project Manager at jforrest@udel.edu or by phone at (302) 831-0595.