

AES PTA DEI Committee

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 22, 2024 from 9:00 - 9:45 PM EST ([LINK](#))

Committee Members

Rachel Frische (rachelfrischemd@gmail.com)

Shabnam Ali

Mallory List



Helpful Links

- AES PTA DEI [Kickoff Presentation](#)
- Whatsapp Chat [Link](#) to join for AES DEI Committee Conversations
- [National PTA DEI Page](#)
- [National PTA 2024-2025 Multicultural Calendar](#)
- [National PTA Diversity, Inclusion, and Outreach Hub Facebook Group](#)
- [Wake County Public School System \(WCPSS\) DEI Committee Workshop Series, 2024-2025](#)

Mission Statement

The DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Committee in an AES PTA group dedicated to fostering an inclusive, supportive, and respectful environment for all students, families, and staff. This committee focuses on promoting awareness and understanding of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives within the school community. By organizing events, educational programs, and initiatives, the DEI Committee works to ensure that everyone feels welcome and valued, aiming to create a school culture that celebrates differences and promotes equal opportunities for all students to succeed.

Current PTA DEI Activities

Current activities from PTA and this committee serving DEI purpose

- AES PTA Friday bulletin Messages
 - Automated weekly inclusions of holidays and commemorative month celebrations of special demographics
- WCPSS PTA Council, DEI Committee Workshops (monthly)
 - [Sign Up link](#)
 - 10/8/24 (in person) Introductions and Resource Sharing
 - 11/21/24 (virtual) How to Welcome Diverse Families into Your PTA
 - 12/10/24 (in person) Dual Capacity Framework and SIP Rewrite

- 1/14/25 (in person) DEI Summit - Trio of Cultures (SE Asian, Latino, and African-American Populations, How to Engage Diverse Families, and Changing Demographics
- 2/11/25 (virtual) What Does the New Political Landscape Mean for Our Students (DEI lens)?
- 3/11/25 (virtual) DEI: Budgeting, DEI and Advocacy, and Measuring Success
- 4/8/25 (virtual) SEIC (Special Ed Inclusion Committee)
- 5/13/25 (in person) Reflections/Celebrations

Brainstorm DEI Activities for the School Year

● Storytime with Diverse Books (#1 Priority)

- Organize a storytime event each semester where parent or teacher volunteers read books from diverse authors or featuring characters from different cultures and backgrounds.
- Pair storytime with small group discussions to encourage kids to share their own backgrounds and learn about others.
- Virtual night time story?
- Grant for books
- Amazon List for [AES PTA DEI Book List](#)

● DEI Library or Resource List (#2 Priority)

- Build a small library or resource list of books, videos, and learning materials that foster diversity and inclusion.
- Create “take-home bags” with a DEI-focused book and activity sheet for families to explore together.

● Inclusive Holiday Celebrations (#2 Priority)

- Develop an inclusive holiday calendar to celebrate different cultural holidays throughout the year, educating students on customs, symbols, and meanings.
- Create a bulletin board or monthly newsletter section with facts and crafts related to each celebration.

● Kindness Month or “Buddy Up” Program (#3 Priority, involved planning)

- Designate a month for promoting kindness and empathy with activities like "Buddy Up" days where older students are paired with younger students to promote inclusivity and mentorship.
- Challenge students to complete kindness acts and recognize them with a small certificate or public shout-out.

● Multicultural Fair/World Fest

- Host a family night where students and parents can explore various cultures through food, music, crafts, and performances.
- Set up stations representing different countries or cultural groups represented within the school community.

● Pen Pal Program with Local/Global Schools

- Connect students with a partner school in a different neighborhood or country to exchange letters, videos, or artwork.
- Emphasize themes of friendship, understanding, and cultural exchange.
- **Art and Music from Around the World**
 - Organize hands-on art and music sessions where students learn about different cultural art forms, such as Japanese origami, Mexican papel picado, or African drumming.
 - Showcase student work in a multicultural art display.
- **Family Recipe Book or Food Fest**
 - Invite families to submit recipes from their cultural backgrounds, then create a digital or printed recipe book.
 - Host a Food Fest where parents can bring dishes to share, offering students an opportunity to try new foods.

Notes

-

Action Items

Task	Assigned Volunteer
Ask Stephanie Mitchell if there is a specific DEI Mission statement through WCPSS and grant funding request link	Shabnam
Get demographic survey results from Carissa	Rachel
Get in contact with AES Equity Team (Bell, Jones, G) Email Sylvia Jones	Rachel
Email Maria Ringdal to inquire about speaking	Shabnam

Next Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, January 22, 2024 from 9:00 - 9:45 PM EST ([LINK](#))

AES PTA DEI Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 • 9:00 – 9:45pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/qhx-drrj-swe>

Or dial: (US) +1 785-670-6697 PIN: 988 630 960#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/qhx-drrj-swe?pin=6996157651717>