

## **Our Anti-Bias Work**

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One of the Professional Development areas that we had identified for all staff to work more on is related to Anti-Bias work as part of our diversity/equity goals. As an authentic Montessori school, we are proud of the peace curriculum and cultural lessons and materials that do so much to show and teach acceptance of all types of people. The lessons of the Fundamental Human Needs taught in Elementary, and the Middle School focus on "What it means to be Human?" get at the heart of this curriculum.

[Blog](#) on Cosmic Education

[Article](#) on Peace Education

[Notes](#) I wrote last year on Peace Education

Middle School Curriculum [notes](#)

These are all areas where we consider/teach about/discuss diversity, equity (or the lack thereof), along with prejudice, privilege, bias, and anti-bias. We do well and we want to be better. Many staff spent time this summer reading and considering how we can be more direct, thorough, and intentional in our work in this area. Several staff read and discussed:

Waking up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving

Other summer reading included:

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

What If All the Kids Are White?: Anti-bias Multicultural Education With Young Children And Families (Early Childhood Education Series) by Louise Derman-Sparks

Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria: And Other Conversations About Race by Beverly Daniel Tatum



Our In-Service week, included a half-day training by Tiffany Jewell, who has the experience of being both a Montessori Elementary teacher and a social justice and peace education teacher. (<https://anti-biasmontessori.com>) She has presented at local and national conferences and gave us an afternoon of insight and resources for further planning and exploration of this ongoing work. We will be sharing more about this in the coming weeks, months and years!