



Ways to support D&I PS39

Please look over this list and find a place to get involved: Email Andrea Margulies for more information at diversity@ps39.org or margulies00@gmail.com.

Book of the Month Program:

D&I is committed to helping our school community promote a culture of respect, social justice, equity and openness. Based on the Windows and Mirrors project, BOM To help our families on this journey, our team of parents and teachers have created a Book of the Month program for both families and adults. We hope this program will spark robust conversations around inclusion and diversity while bringing us together as a community with shared ideals.

Dialogue and Drinks:

A monthly adult book club focusing on books with social justice themes.

Lead: Swati Parikh

D&I Newsletter:

A monthly newsletter highlighting the book of the month program, and containing information and ways to engage in the work of D&I.

PS39 Book Room Edit:

Sorting through books in the PS39 book rooms to remove and donate books that are outdated, and/or do not fit with PS39 core values.

Refugee Art Project:

UNHCR hosts an annual [art contest](#). We will use the idea of this project at our PS39. We will also create welcome boxes/ donations for refugees to go along with the art project. Learn more about the project here :

And be sure to check out the virtual museum of [last year's submissions](#)

Book Drives and Book Events:

Book Drives, [Traveling Book Project](#), Book Swap Padlets ([Kindergarten- Grade 1 Swap](#), [Grade 2 and Grade 3 Swap](#), [Grade 4 and Grade 5 Swap](#)). We are looking for as many ideas for ways to engage and create access to books for readers at PS39 and beyond.

Webpage Management:

Updating [our webpage](#), a curated round up of informational links, community event information, ways to talk to our children about Diversity and Inclusion, and much more.

Community Events: Organizing school and community engagement events centered around community engagement with principles of social justice.

Past events include:

- Yearly Welcome Potluck Dinner
- Social Justice sign making for the school fence (ongoing)
- Juneteenth rock painting and sign making
- BLM March and rock painting
- Treats for change bake sale for social justice
- Letters to city officials for justice reforms

And many more... Ideas are VERY welcome.

Teacher Appreciation:

Creating ways to show teachers they are appreciated.

Past events (separate from the May Teacher Appreciation Month):

- Teacher appreciation [padlet](#)
- Videos from students to their teachers

Parent Workshops (Usually in person):

Organization of workshops on social justice issues. This is a big need. Though difficult during the pandemic, we would love to get some workshops scheduled.

New Family Intros:

Ambassadors to welcome new families to PS39 through communications and meet ups.

Affinity Groups:

Work in Progress. A lead for this would be fantastic

Summer Engagement Kit:

A comprehensive yearly kit release in June containing:

- Free events within NYC
- Opportunities to get involved in community outreach
- Booklists
- Book of the Month selections for children and adult selections for Dialogue & Drinks
- Museum exhibits and safe social distancing activities around the city
- A weekly Challenge to engage in learning and community
- A Guide to Digital Citizenship
- Mindfulness and Wellness Resources

- Safe Social Distancing Activities
- Resources on how to volunteer and get involved in community action
- Black Lives Matter Resources, Events, Organizations and book Lists
- Social Emotional Learning Resources
- Last Looks from our Fifth Graders

Masks for All Initiative:

The PS 39 mask initiative aims to provide a reusable fabric facemask to any student or staff member. We are starting with PS 39, but are looking to build partnerships with other schools to make sure everyone is protected. We believe that every person who wants a reusable mask should have access to one. Contact: masks@ps39.org

Lead: Lesa Rozmarek

Parent Engagement in PS39 Core Values:

PS39 is engaging its teachers in ongoing activities around the school's core values. We would like to create parent and family engagement activities to implement these core values in our entire community.

Food Pantries:

Support of community food pantries for the rapidly increasing number of families who are food insecure.

Your Story, Our Story:

In partnership with the Tenement Museum “Your Story, Our Story” entries invite us to look back, or look closer, at the ways that our families change over time, and how we define our own American identity through the generations. Objects that evoke sounds, smells, tastes and memories connect us to our family’s immigrant or migrant heritage. At the same time, our quests for these objects also involve a sense of mystery.

Partnership with the Tenement Museum. The project begins with parents/caregivers sharing with their child(ren) a story about an object that has been passed down or is cherished. It should be an object that represents their family’s immigration or migration story. Take a picture of the object and you and your child can write a few sentences to share the story. We laminate and hang the stories on the PS39 fence.

[Your Story Our Story Form](#)

District Wide Initiatives

Participate in D15 Equity Congress