



We invite you to participate in a **PEN Conversation**.

As we all reframe the systems, structures, and rituals of online, hybrid, and on-site schooling during this unprecedented time, we have an imperative to examine them through the lenses of diversity, equity, and justice. To build and support our network, we want to learn what you need from PEN and to consider how we all can enact our commitments to equity and justice at this historic moment.

Choose ONE Zoom session to attend.

Wednesday, August 5th

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm EDT

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm EDT

Saturday, August 8th

12:00 pm- 1:00 pm EDT

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm EDT

[Click here to register](#)

See next page for an outline of the Zoom session.

Outline for August 2020 PEN Conversations

What's the context for this session?

Time required: (2 min)

As the Board of Directors, our role is to lead, to serve, and to listen.

Always, we work to uphold the [PEN Principles of Progressive Education](#).

Rather than to provide prescriptions, templates, 'resources,' or recipes incrementally or transactionally to improve your schools, we continue to invite you into the perpetual, vexing, passionate, messy, and demanding work of educational and social transformation.

To that end we ask you what you need from us to support you in the continued work ahead.

- *How can this network support your work?*
- *How can we model or live out our commitments to equity and justice at this historic moment?*
- *Given your role in your school, what is a particular area of impact you want to focus on this fall? What are the implications for your own work?*

Caveat: We are a volunteer board who are deeply committed to progressive education and as such our capacity to manage regular events is limited. With this series, we are hoping to find ways to create space for our members to fill with things they are interested in doing/discussing.

Words and Images to set the tone

Time required: (2 min)

"The impossible is becoming possible. As we all stand in the midst of a world crisis, those of us who can dream must dream. And after we dream, we must demand and act. In the face of that racism and resistance, it may seem pointless, but this is the perfect time to radically dream."

- Dr. Bettina Love

[Image of community spaces](#)

We would like to create online spaces for our community to gather, connect, and have conversations. In these spaces, perhaps we can "radically dream" together.

Break Out Group Set Up

Time required: (10 min)

Break out groups will be randomly created (groups of 8 - since all may not participate)

PROMPTS (broad > specific):

- *How can this network support your work?*
- *How can we model or live out our commitments to equity and justice at this historic moment?*
- *Given your role in your school, what is a particular area of impact you want to focus on this fall? What are the implications for your own work?*

Break Out Groups

Time required: (23 min)

- The person with the earliest birth month completes this [Googleform](#) that summarizes your ideas.
- Come back to the main group ready to share out.

Share Out

Time required: (13 min)

- Allow group access to [Googleform results](#) of summary of ideas.
- Groups share out.
- Notes are taken and screen is shared so folks can see the notes.

Closing Quote

Time required: (5 min)

“Not everyone who chased the zebra caught it, but he who caught it, chased it.”

- African proverb

Let's go out and chase that zebra together!