Hampton Elementary School PTA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee

The National PTA has voiced its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through the establishment of a nation-wide initiative toward realizing these values in our school communities.

Across the country, students, families, and educators experience vastly different education systems that either support – or hinder – the ability for all children to reach their full potential. These differences are often due to disparities in opportunities, access, and financial resources, and whether parents are respected as equal partners in their child's education.

To be part of the solution, National PTA recognizes that we have our own work to do to advance diversity, equity and inclusion across the association and recently adopted the following definitions and beliefs to help PTA leaders:

- Re-commit to diversity, equity, and inclusion in their PTA by communicating these beliefs and definitions with other PTA members
- Critically reflect on areas where their PTA has had successes and where it has had challenges when it comes to diversity, equity, and inclusion


The HES community is proud to be part of this initiative, having established Hampton Elementary’s first DEI Committee in the Spring of 2021, with inaugural Co-Chairs Ryan Berlin and Jessie Jaeger.

What is DEI? Here are some basic definitions from Tuskegee University’s Cooperative Extension:
Why is the DEI Committee an important part of the PTA? When PTAs respect differences yet acknowledge shared commonalities uniting their communities, and then develop meaningful priorities based upon their knowledge, they genuinely represent their communities. When PTAs represent their communities, they gain strength and effectiveness through increased volunteer and resource support.

What are the HES DEI Committee Goals and Responsibilities?

- **Goals**: We will work to embrace and encourage diversity, achieve equity, and foster inclusion for all Hampton Elementary community members regardless of their identity (e.g., race, color, religion, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, employment status, immigration status or socioeconomic status), within the PTA and at school.
- **Responsibilities**: Work within all committees as well as a single agency to promote an environment of inclusion and equity and foster diversity. Create events and outreach to engage the community and facilitate engagement of diverse members of our community and to embrace all.

How can I get involved? The DEI Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month, via Google Meet. Everyone is welcome - we need your voice to help represent all Hampton students and families!
Contact Us!: Ryan Berlin and Jessie Jaeger, DEI Committee Co-Chairs – hamptonesdei@gmail.com

Have a question, concern, idea, or comment you prefer to submit anonymously? Click here.

National Resources
  - National PTA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - National PTA Multicultural Calendar
  - National PTA LGBTQ Glossary of Terms
  - Embrace Race | Supports parents to raise children who are brave, informed and thoughtful about race
  - A Mighty Girl Guide to Multicultural Fiction

Local PTA Connections
  - Rodgers Forge Elementary DEI Committee
  - Pot Spring Elementary DEI Committee

Things to Do
  - Visit Baltimore: Celebrating Diversity
  - Visit Maryland: Cultural and Heritage Festivals

Hampton DEI Events and Resources
  - Nice White Parents Podcast - Episode 1 was the topic of discussion for a DEI-sponsored event in June 2021