

CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH IN SPS



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Easy access to resources is so important

In order for educators, staff, and families to be able to engage in celebrating, and understanding the importance of different holidays, celebrations, cultures, traditions, races and identities, it is important that they have access to resources that can expand learning and teaching.

Having a centralized resource will help educators to focus on delivering lessons without having to search for content. Having information accessible in an organized and user-friendly fashion will help to easily and readily provide educators with information, ideas and lessons to share with students and families.

centralized DISTRICT RESOURCE*



Hello and Welcome to the Somerville Public Schools Equity & Excellence Resource Page. We are so happy that you are here!

Here you will find resources (all in one place!) to help support inclusive classrooms for all students and staff.

**The Centralized District Resource has clickable links that take the user to portals of culture and learning resources.*

BOOKS

Bilingual Books:

“¡Me gusta cómo soy!/I Like Myself!” by Karen Beaumont Illustrated by Steven Catrow

“My Colors, My World/Mis Colores, Mi Mundo” by Maya Christina Gonzalez

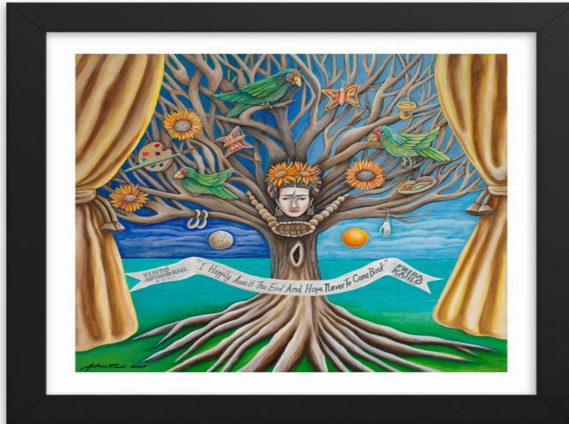
“The Mexiglish Girl / La Chica Mexiglish” by Natalie Simons Illustrated by Alessia Fraschetta



BOOKS FOR VARIOUS AGES: (included in the District Resource are reading materials for different ages and grade levels)

change makers

- [Rosa Castellanos](#) served as a medic in the first of Cuba's Independence Wars, often heading straight into battle to help wounded soldiers.
- [Cesar Chavez](#) was a union leader who helped start the United Farm Workers of America to push for better wages and working conditions for migrant workers.
- [Frida Kahlo](#) was an incredibly unique painter known for her striking, colorful self-portraits. Her artwork is bold, empowering, and deeply moving.
- [Rita Moreno](#) is an actress, singer, and dancer who won a Tony, Emmy, Oscar, and Grammy Award.
- [Ellen Ochoa](#) was the first Hispanic female astronaut and is also an inventor.



Information IS JUST a CLICK away

In addition to books and information on Change Makers, the document that was created includes information including (but not limited to):

History

Articles

Activities

Educational Videos

Music

Art

and more [Staff Resources](#) for lessons and further adult - as well as - student learning.

STAFF IS a Great resource FOR INFORMATION & IDEAS!

From Tania Connor, Supervisor Library/Media Services:

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month at SPS Libraries (Sept. 15- Oct. 15, 2022)

For students: Ask your school librarian to help you learn about famous Latinx leaders who demonstrated hope and resilience throughout history. Here are a few inspirational change-makers to get you started. Who do you want to learn more about?

For students and staff: Check out the Hispanic Heritage month Sora list from Ms. Ross, SHS librarian

For students and staff: Want even more titles? Check out some of our other recommendations!

For staff: Join the Celebrating Hispanic Heritage and Cultural Mirrors Webinar on Wednesday, September 21st, 2:00pm CDT. Join young adult and middle grade authors Raquel Vasquez Gilliland (Sia Martinez and the Moonlit Beginning of Everything, How Moon Fuentes Fell in Love with the Universe) and Ryan Calejo (the Charlie Hernández series) in an engaging and uplifting conversation about providing mirrors for young people, across genres, that reflect their cultures and identities.

ESCS Equity Portal

Get in touch with me!
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Resources Folder

*Curriculum,
Planning &
Instruction*

Inclusive Calendar

*Created by Heidi
Given &
Capuano
educators*

Monthly Topics!

This Month:

*Latinx or
Hispanic? &
diversity within
the Latinx
community*

Next

Month:

*Indigenous
People's Day,
Halloween and
Dia de los
Muertos*

Learning for Justice

*Social Justice
Standards*

Equity Coaching

*with District
Equity Coach
Heidi Given*

Equity & Excellence Newsletter

*Check back each
month!*

Equity Team

*Read job
posting and
email me if
interested!*

FROM WHCIS EQUITY SPECIALIST KARA DODD

(All of the below information, and more, appears on a WHCIS Equity Page created by Kara)

Latinx Heritage month is celebrated September 15- October 15th

It is important to remember that the Latinx community is incredibly diverse in race, gender identities, language and religion. I encourage you to be thoughtful about this as you choose books and activities to share with students, since there is not “one way” to be Latinx. Also, it is essential to amplify Black Latinx, Asian Latinx, and Indigenous experiences, as they are often not as represented in our celebration of Latinx Heritage month, but are still very much Latinx.

This is a great reminder that race, ethnicity, and identity often intersect for many people, so while these months are a great opportunity to celebrate different cultures, it is crucial that representation for all identities is considered *all year long!*

*Kara goes on to include several easy links that take the user to helpful portals of information and learning.

CLOSING THOUGHT: EQUITY SHOULD NOT PRESENTED AS AN ADDITION TO THE LESSON; IT SHOULD BE WHAT DRIVES THE LESSON, ALL YEAR LONG

Incorporating cross cultural collaboration in lessons and in learning all year long is the best way to promote equity and further the efforts toward social justice. We live in a world that is heterogenous, and our teaching, learning, sharing and conversations should reflect that consistently and regularly.

It's okay to not know everything; if you don't know, ask. The way we learn is to question, share, and be culturally curious in a way that promotes unity and equity.

Thank you, and keep learning and growing!