

June 5, 2020



## AGENDA

- Inclusion: Check In
  - Jamboard
  - Resources
  - Open Forum
- Reflection and next steps

# Objectives

- Continue to build community through dialogue
- Receive updates about resources
  
- Before we continue, please type your name and relationship to ERJSHS in the chat for connecting.
- Also, if a Zoom “bomb” occurs, I will immediately end the meeting for our collective safety.

## Inclusion- Check In

▶ We each have our own feelings about the protests following the death of George Floyd. However, I want our learning environment to be a safe space to listen to our students express their feelings. Respect means validating someone's feelings even if you don't share them.

Let's start with these trauma-resilience informed practices by asking:

1. Check-in: How are you today?
2. Maintaining high expectations: What are your goal(s) to positively support Black Lives Matter?
3. Help-seeking and goal attainment: How will you achieve this goal?

Please type your response in the chat or raise your hand to speak.

It's also ok if you want a respite from the stress and be present by reading/listening.

## Jamboard

1. Overview and process
2. Step 1: Silently respond to the slides.  
Go back and forth between slides to create shared meaning.
3. Step 2: Connections
3. Reflection on content and process.

## LISTEN-PROTECT-CONNECT-MODEL

Supt. Beutner:

“All of us need to demonstrate that Black lives matter. It doesn’t mean saying, “Yes, I support you.” Rather, it means rolling up your sleeves and doing the work.”

Resources:

<https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/16775>

Adriana Rodriguez:

"I decided to do a simple blue butterfly. I chose blue because that is the color of justice. That is what the world needs right now. Justice for black lives. Black lives matter"



▸ Sabrina Hernandez:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1B7PIbmQDCEvd-yIIVn9t8zxuggbFtXLdiM70AuwvCZ0/edit?usp=sharing>

Ms. Gamage:  
Recent events across the country have brought the injustice and systemic racism that has long ...  
GoFundMe.org needs your support for Justice and Equality Fund:  
<https://gf.me/u/x6ii2v>

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## Open Forum

Please use this time to talk or chat to type your thoughts about :

- 1) How you can positively support yourself and others?
- 2) What might be some ideas to support systemic change for equity?

## Reflection

Author Audre Lorde writes,

“Revolution is not a one time event.”

“Our feelings are our most genuine paths to knowledge.”

“Caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare.”

***Choose one that matches with how you feel at this moment and share why in the chat.***

# Black Students Matter

How does the slogan “we see you, we hear you” resonate with you in regards to Black students?

MYLENE KEIPP SEP 14, 2020 03:13PM

**Students need to feel and know their existence matters.**

## Unity

"We see you, we hear you". Teachers need to learn about the lives of students and showing that we care. Teachers should also practice mindfulness and loving-kindness.

**We must also work to have open discussion and dialogue on the issue, and not simply lecture.**

**Become more compassionate and understanding of all out students.**

**We all have to be more compassionate and understanding**

**many questions and a lack of easy answers with this subject. In large classes its a challenge to make all students feel they are seen and heard.**

**We all need to continually work to be decent people and treat people decently.**

**We see you, we hear you, we support you...**

**We need to educate ourselves and our students to understand and deconstruct toxic ideologies such as racism.**

## Compassion and Empathy

### Compassion, empathy, patience

Try to remember these when I'm teaching

**We value each of you and you are not alone to make change happen.**

**We need to be sincere and show interest in connecting with our black students**

I hear you, I see you, and I want to help you

**We see you- we understand you; We hear you- we are listening to what you have to say.**

**We all need to stop and listen!**

**Yes, Black Students Matters. We need to support them.**

We need to learn about their culture and be empathetic, not assume things about them. it is through the daily sharing that we learn.

## Maslow

Love/acceptance

## **Understanding**

Acknowledging and bringing an awareness to the injustices and struggles that students are going through. By bringing an awareness, we bring a time to reflect and change.

We need to work on understanding what we see.

**We as educators have to operate at a higher level of compassion and understanding for all our students.**

We see you and hear you

**We can try to fully understand the years of struggle that the black community has endured, but it may not be possible. We can, however, be respectful and ask that all of our students in class are respectful to one another and see the value of the contributions that each group has made to our country. It's a shame that we look at the color of the skin vs the person.**

**We see you - as who you chose to present yourself. We hear you - and value what you have to say**

**We need to educate ourselves and our students to deconstruct the toxic ideology of racism.**

**I just feel relieved when I hear that statement, relieved for students, sad that it needs to be said**

**each person as an individual, each with a soul..**

**I believe we try to be fair to everyone**

## **Check ins**

are used to open communication and create a safe space for our classroom

**Love the slogan but it makes me think what comes next. We see you, we hear you and then what?**

## **"We see you, we hear you"**

Recognize the movement and educating myself on what the goals are for the the present and future of black lives.

**I am not black but i see you, i am not black but i hear you, i am not black but i mourn with you , I am not black but i will stand and fight for you**

**Recognizing the validity of the individual and their voice is paramount to healing.**

## **Compassion**

It's so important to listen. To care

We need to know where our kids are coming from in all respects in order to form a more trusting, engaged relationship.

**"We see you, We Hear You" means to me that we listen to our students' voices and acknowledge their experiences - even when those experiences are different from our own experiences.**

**I see you, and I understand your message, and am trying to be active in correcting the wrongs you have suffered from. We need to help our Black students get some boots to be able to pull up their straps.**

RIP Mohammad Ali

**I feel my upbringing was in a very homogeneous community and I need more exposure to other cultures to really understand what others go through and be more empathetic.**

## **Empathy**

We must show empathy to them and let them know that we care about them, who they are, and help them realize their dreams.

## **I see and hear...**

by choosing content that is relevant and recognizes the contributions and voice of Blacks in this world.

**It resonates with me because it's finally acknowledging that change needs to happen**

**Having the discussion is a step in the right direction**

**It's important to give AA students a voice and opportunities to voice what they have to say.**

## **As history teachers**

It is important that we teach students about the contributions of

## **No more denial!**

You've got to acknowledge the issue before you can fix it.

**It goes beyond the surface of simply seeing and hearing. It is to truly believe and understand that people have different experiences and based on these experiences have different beliefs and opportunity.**

**Only Native African American students are coming from a history of slavery. They have been disfranchised from the past and we have not given them enough opportunity till now. As a teacher I have an obligation to help correct the situation.**

**My black students are feeling seen and heard reading Ta-Nehisi Coates - loving the conversations!**

**Building relationship, having empathy, and patience**

**Eared privilege is a lie.**

MLK mentioned Homestead Act--free land to whites only.

## **Connection**

To say "we hear you, we see you" is to acknowledge were someone is at in that moment and validate their perspective and emotion. It resonates with my highest self and I feel that everyone is capable of this kind of empathy when we have our essentials and a basic sense of security. I think many people with implicit bias are inhibited to action by our culture which is build on scarcity mindset. Sometimes I even feel like if I give away money or what little I have that I will never get it again. I think this feeling is shared by many and on a cultural scale is reflected in resistance against ideas like reparations, universal basic income, universal healthcare, and funding public education especially in low income neighborhoods

## **Let's hear one another!**

Find common experiences



given any advantage many other groups have. We need to have empathy and compassion and respect for them in every capacity.

## **It's a start.**

### **I see you**

I'm reminded that seeing is not just with one's eyes but also one's mind. Stop, look, comprehend. Listen. Take a moment of reflection to rethink how our history has been narrated.

### **Ethnic Studies**

Ethnic studies is a great place to start. One of the units is African-American history. We need to not only teach of the difficulties African Americans suffered but also celebrate all they've done not just in the US but worldwide.

## **Be Authentic, Honest, & Aware**

Actions speak more than words. We change things by including authors from as many ethnic groups as possible - LGBTQ, Black, Native America, Aborigine, Irish, Latin, etc... - and making that the focal point. We discuss that we all are learning and that we are not here to attack anyone and impost anyone. It's an educator's job to present facts and let students think and discuss; NOT to indoctrinate. All we can do is expose people to as many different human experiences as possible without hammering it over their heads verbally. Does that make sense? Idk.

**As educators, we need to do a better job of following this slogan "we see you, we hear you" in regards to our Black students. We need to follow this slogan without being condescending.**

### **We see you, we hear you thoughts:**

This is a good approach because it is not proclaiming any self righteous anti-racist slogans, it's taking the necessary first steps: seeing and hearing others is critical and creating a more compassionate, inclusive environment.

### **Compassion**

"We see you, we hear you" means we need to not only listen to our black student and families, but hear and acknowledge their experience. Their community has never been compensated and

**The slogan is all well and good, but what are the next steps? What do we do in and out of the classroom to advance this slogan and begin to make true normative change in our society and educational systems?**

### **Acknowledging Struggle**

I think we need to acknowledge our black students' experiences and to validate them by weaving black voices into our curriculum. This is a way to promote meaningful conversation about

### **Compassion**

My heart goes out to

**We hear you, we see you,**

We're listening. We respect you.

**I see you, I hear you and I respect you could be the new slogan. Interaction with others will allow up to interact and show respect- Aguilar**

As history teachers it is our

**this slogan has always resonated with me and they have always mattered, however it is important to be aware of the things I don't know in regards to better supporting them as well as all students who aren't seen and heard**

How do we really do this?

## **Look, Listen**

I need to continue to being open to our students' concerns and needs.

## **We see you, We hear you...**

We need to acknowledge that the system is not fair. We need to talk about it. By showing students that we care and that we are aware and that we are here, we show that they are seen and that they are heard.

**When I read the quote I thought, we see our black students but are we really hearing them... Its important for us to really listen and inform/re-educated ourselves. We cant keep brushing this under the rug.**

## **Not enough**

I shared with my group that the slogan is nice. But that's about it. The slogan sends to Black students and the Black community overall that we are recognizing their struggles and demands, but doesn't reassure them that we recognize our role in perpetuating injustice. A better slogan might include: "I'm ready to sit down, listen, and unlearn so that I can be a better ally."

## **It's a start...**

It certainly doesn't "fix" anything nor is it in and of itself any more than a bandaid (if that) but it at the minimum begins a conversation we're long overdue on.

**I feel it's important to acknowledge all students no matter what ethnicity. We are living in a time that Black Lives Matter has been a focus especially in Social Media so it does not need to discussed in our classes.**

We need to know

## **Awareness**

We as teachers especially, need to understand and hear that they are struggling to find equality and equity in our society. The government is creating more divide and therefore it is imperative that we bring co

## **We see you we hear you**

Listening with hearts and seeking to understand inspires our compassion and action. Ask to hear other's stories.

## **Everyone needs to know**

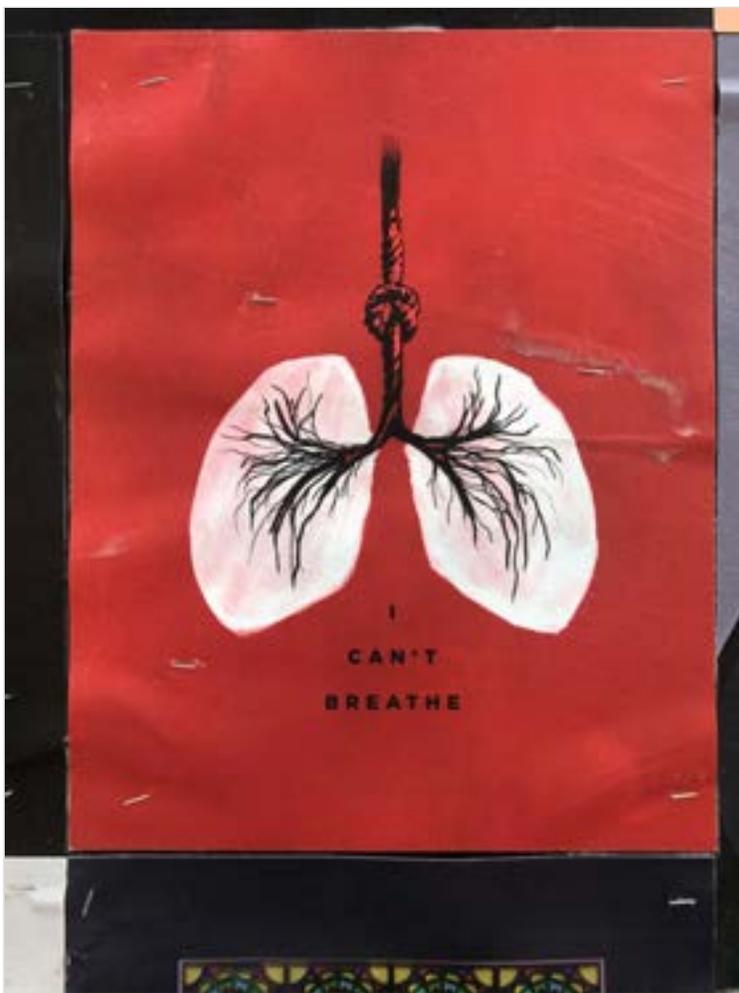
Prior to the small group discussion I felt that because I am not Black or African-American, that teaching about BLM could seem artificial or out-of-place, but NOW I understand that it is everyone's job to learn and teach this his(her)story



## **Be intentional**

Be intentional about connecting with students, understanding them, and working with them. As teachers, we have a direct contact with students and we can make a difference.

**It resonates with me as the beginning of something I am doing, but I believe it is our actions that we take each day to show that "we see, we hear" is more than just words. I want to create a world community where no one has to ask anyone to take their knee off their neck.**



## Empathy

**We need to do a better job of both seeing and hearing our Black students. We should actively support our BSU and encourage them to hold more events, perhaps with the help of ASB.**

**It's important. It can't be overstated how impactful just being "heard" can be for anyone feeling overlooked, oppressed, or negated in some fashion. Of course we need to walk the walk too.**

## We are trying

Personally, when I am told "I hear you" or "I see you" I feel that there is some effort being made to reach understanding. I feel, however, that sometimes it can sound empty if actions don't follow.

I don't know that we actually see them or hear them.

**My cultural competency has been informed most by my long term friendships with Black people, my travels to Africa many times and my work with Black students and families in schools.**

## Understanding

Where we have come from to understand where we are going as a society

## Overwhelmed

I have so many feelings and thoughts - I'm not sure I can capture them articulately right now ...

## We hear you...

How are we giving our black student's and their family's a voice



**We need to acknowledge the systemic racism in our country and be aware of our difference in opportunities.**

**It keeps me grounded with respect to providing readings in Spanish from black authors in my classes such as Nicolás Guillén amongst a few to bring in some perspective for them. Dr. King's words reminded me of a scene in the movie Glory where Denzel's character asked "what was the point in them fighting in the war if it wasn't going to change anything?" That was moving and powerful, that even still, this modern day, we still haven't moved far enough for equity.**

For me, everything begins with observation and acknowledging. Truly listenig and seeing is the first step towards compassion and understanding. Compassion and understanding fuel action

## **We See you, We Hear You**

This means that we we are here to listen to our students voices and understand their concerns and will support , educate, build community and like every other ethnicity, gender give them a safe place to learn and express their feelings in a safe environment. My first meeting and activity with RISE with the rams made me think a lot about this topic the past week.

The slogan “We hear you, we see you” resonates with me because I feel at this time at the most basic level our students just need to know we see them. That they are important and their voices matter. I do not want any student to feel the level of anger and hopelessness that has fueled protests across this country without knowing I am with them. That their school community is with them.

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