A Call for a Collective Action to Develop Awareness: Equity & Social Justice in Mathematics Education

As the 2016-2017 school year begins, we invite you to join with educators from around the country and possibly the world in A Call for a Collective Action to Develop Awareness: Equity and Social Justice in Mathematics Education.

Attached you will find a listing of articles and books identified by several mathematics education organizations and mathematics educators. Each month’s reading(s) has a set of focus questions for you to consider during that month as you reflect on the readings.

A Call for a Collective Action to Develop Awareness: Equity & Social Justice in Mathematics Education

Purpose: A year dedicated to building our collective knowledge and understanding of topics and issues related to Equity and Social Justice in Mathematics Education

1. Monthly readings
   a. Each organization will identify a key reading (book, collection of published articles, white papers) for ALL to read
   b. Group will develop a guiding set of questions to focus the year of reading
   c. Start reading September

2. Quarterly webinars (Dates and Times will be available by October 1)
   a. One hour webinar – November, February, May, and August
   b. 15-20 minutes overview/key take-away(s), considerations, and/or questions of reading for each of the previous months

3. Face-to-Face informal conversations
   a. As organizations hold their national conferences/meetings - one morning or evening hour be set aside for those to gather and talk

Contributing Organizations & Educators

Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) https://www.amte.net/
Benjamin Banneker Association, Inc (BBA) http://bannekermath.org/
California Mathematics Council-South (CMC-South) http://www.cmc-south.org
Journal of Urban Mathematics Education (JUME) http://education.gsu.edu/JUME
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) http://www.nctm.org/
National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) http://www.mathedleadership.org/
North American Study Group on Ethnomathematics (NASGEm) http://nasgem.rpi.edu
Robert Berry, University of Virginia
TODOS: Mathematics for ALL http://www.todos-math.org/
Women and Mathematics Education (WME) http://www.wme-usa.org

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### Focus Questions for the Year

**How might we**, the mathematics education community, make a difference in the teaching and learning of mathematics “that promote rich, rigorous, and relevant mathematical experiences” for all students? What key actions should we consider?

How does the reading further inform or challenge your understandings of issues related to equity and social justice in mathematics education? What question(s) do you have in regards to the reading(s)?

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#### September

Position Papers
- AMTE - Equity in Mathematics Teacher Education  
  [https://amte.net/sites/default/files/amte_equitypositionstatement_sept2015.pdf](https://amte.net/sites/default/files/amte_equitypositionstatement_sept2015.pdf)
- NCSM & TODOS - Mathematics Education Through the Lens of Social Justice: Acknowledgment, Actions, and Accountability  
- NCTM - Access and Equity in Mathematics Education  

1. **What are some common understandings amongst the three position papers?**

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#### October

TODOS: Mathematics for ALL  

TEEM 7- Special Issue: Mathematics Education Through the Lens of Social Justice  
(available online to TODOS members; others should email Diane Kinc dokinch@gmail.com for a copy)

2. **How do we change the paradigm of what mathematics is and how it should be learned from its current institutional form to one that utilizes the mathematics of people and their communities and ties mathematics to the world?**

3. **Which of the examples of social justice and mathematics tasks enacted with students that were written about in this journal most resonates with you? Why?**

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#### November

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)  

The Impact of Identity in K-8 Mathematics. Available at  

4. **What are equitable instructional practices that support the development of students' mathematical identity and sense of agency?**

5. **How can we advocate for the implementation of these practices?**

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### WEBINAR (September – November)

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**December**

**Journal of Urban Mathematics Education (JUME)** [http://education.gsu.edu/JUME](http://education.gsu.edu/JUME)

(Three Articles)


Response Commentary


6. How might the larger mathematics education community achieve a both—and approach?

7. How might the larger mathematics education community begin to respect the different perspectives of doing science employed when rigorously examining the critical issues of “diversity” and “equity” in mathematics education research?

**January**

Benjamin Banneker Association, Inc (BBA) [http://bannekermath.org/](http://bannekermath.org/)

Beyond Banneker: Black Mathematicians and the Paths to Excellence (2015) by Erica N. Walker (Author)

8. What is the nature of the path for developing mathematics education excellence and scholarship?

9. What challenges do we face and what changes might mitigate them?

**February**

North American Study Group on Ethnomathematics (NASGEm) [http://nasje.rpi.edu](http://nasje.rpi.edu)

Culturally Situated Design Tools: Generative Justice as a Foundation for STEM Diversity

Eglash, R., Babbitt, W., Bennett, A., Bennett, K., Callahan, B., Davis, J., ... Tully, K. (forthcoming). In Y. Rankin and J. Thomas (eds.), *Moving Students of Color from Consumers to Producers of Technology*. Hershey PA: IGI Global. Preprint online at [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kt0zEZ2JlSH0QoveDmzckuWkzPltcmdMywZF9Gl7ug/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kt0zEZ2JlSH0QoveDmzckuWkzPltcmdMywZF9Gl7ug/edit)

10. The “pipeline” model for STEM diversity is at best like oil production, taking kids out of their low-income communities for use elsewhere. What alternative models might be available?


11. How does statistics inform questions of equity and justice?

12. How do concepts of equity and justice in turn create rich vehicles for teaching concepts of statistics?

**WEBINAR (December – February)**

**March**

Women and Mathematics Education (WME) [http://www.wme-usa.org](http://www.wme-usa.org)

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| Women 1.5 Times More Likely to Leave STEM Pipeline after Calculus Compared to Men: Lack of Mathematical Confidence a Potential Culprit |
| http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0157447 |

| 13. What role can mathematics teacher educators play in developing and strengthening K-12 girls’ mathematics confidence and identity? |
| 14. What are effective instructional practices that support the development of girls' mathematical confidence, identity and sense of agency? (Note: This is a sub-set "focus" of NCTM's emphasis) |

| April |
| Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) https://www.amte.net/ |
| Additional Information will be available soon. |

| May |
| National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) http://www.mathedleadership.org/ |
| Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student (2016) by Alan M. Blankstein and Pedro Noguera |
| Blanstein & Noguera (2016) talk about courage as the essential human virtue, and how courageous leadership is the “engine that drives the paradigm shift”. |
| 17. What are the five principles of courageous leadership to guide achievement for every student discussed by these authors? |
| 18. How does your organization’s vision reflect the five components of courageous leadership? What can we do together to make visible these components? |

| WEBINAR (March – May) |
| June |
| Robert Berry, University of Virginia |
| For White Folks Who Teach in the Hood... and the Rest of Y'all Too: Reality Pedagogy and Urban Education (2016) by Christopher Emdin |
| The author discusses different types of pedagogies grounded in the resources that communities can offer for teaching; The author introduces 7'C's; |
| 19. What are ways teachers can gain access to community resources (human & material)? |
| 20. How can we make sense of this for mathematics teaching and learning? |

| July |
| California Mathematics Council-South (CMC-South) http://www.cmc-south.org |
| Additional Information will be available soon. |
| 21. Questions |

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