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## OFFICE OF EQUITY

August 23, 2017



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

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### RESOURCES FOR DISCUSSING RACISM A Message from the Office of Equity

Greetings,

Following the recent events of white supremacist rallies and violence in Charlottesville, the Oakland Unified School District's Office of Equity is hearing from students, families, and staff grappling with the aftermath of the hatred and blatant acts of racism. While the mission of white nationalists is not new, many young people are experiencing it for the first time and it is clear that resources are needed to help facilitate discussions.

The Office of Equity focuses on improving the systemwide culture, conditions, and competencies necessary to advance equity for children and families situated furthest from opportunity.

Transformative practices include:

- fair and restorative justice;
- engaged instruction;
- culturally relevant curriculum; and
- positive narrative and beliefs.

We have compiled a selection of [resources for teachers and families](#) to help guide discussions around racism. The full list is available on our website at [www.ousd.org/equity](http://www.ousd.org/equity).

As we welcome our students back to school this week, the Office of Equity is focused on helping our school communities to create supportive spaces for our students to thrive. We will remain informed and prepared to support with empathy, compassion, and responsiveness.

In service,  
Bro. Chris

Christopher P. Chatmon  
*Deputy Chief*  
Office of Equity  
Oakland Unified School District

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