

From: Wayde Byard
To: Scott Ziegler; Ashley Ellis; Lottie Spurlock
Cc: Joan Sahlgren
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Equity Instruction
Date: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:34:22 PM

Dr. Ziegler, Dr. Ellis and Mrs. Spurlock.

I'll be putting these questions in a Google Doc for potential answers. This editor has been friendly to us in the past. In our phone conversation, he said he wanted to "cut through the crazy" and give an honest account of what LCPS is doing.

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From: Norman Styer <nstyer@loudounnow.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 2:09 PM
To: Wayde Byard <Wayde.Byard@lcps.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Equity Instruction

Wayde,

Following up on our conversation, I'm searching for a way to provide a productive context for the general public to understand the division's culturally responsive teaching approach, or its equity work more generally.

As the culture war aspect heats up, we're getting more calls from normal parents confused about what to expect in the classroom. Topics like privilege and fragility are foreign to generations raised on a colorblind approach to equality, and perhaps are difficult to grasp without the context of the equity training.

Short of providing public equity training workshops, I'm thinking a discussion with Dr. Townsend and/or Mrs. Spurlock could be helpful to explore the roots of the program, the challenge of breaking staff and students out of their comfort zones; and some of the feedback so far. Also, to be noted is that this is a "Loudoun County thing," but changes being directed at the state level and an approach expanding nationally.

The main goal would not be to say "this is not CRT," but to say "this is what it is"—at least providing a factual basis upon which to have a discussion (if one is possible).

Open to suggestions.

Thank you.

-Norman

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