

TERMS

Students have discussed common definitions for these terms:

Diversity

Social Justice

Privilege

Advocacy

REFLECT

Becoming Joey

"Becoming Joey" details the experiences of an immigrant student as he wrestles with his identity and his desire for social acceptance in a new place.

Watch the video:

https://youtu.be/6e5nFV_z8ro

Discussion Questions:

- As you read this poem, consider how the poet uses rhythm and word choice to portray the struggle for acceptance.
- What does "Becoming Joey" suggest about the acceptance of diversity in schools?
- What is the meaning of the phrase "classrooms heated against some sorts of cold"?

EXPERIENCES

Share one time in your life when you have experienced privilege or oppression. How did this experience impact you?

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Diversity: the art of thinking independently together.

- Malcolm Forbes

SOCIAL JUSTICE HOMEROOM

Monthly Newsletter

A NOTE TO PARENTS

Please use this newsletter as a way to bridge the gap between school and home and have conversations that are an extension of the work they are doing in homeroom.

This newsletter is done in the spirit of encouraging courageous conversations. When we engage in conversations such as these, the goal should be to ground the discussion in our own personal and group identities as we uncover systemic and structural racism, privilege, implicit bias, belonging, oppression and equity in various communities. The purpose of the Social Justice Curriculum is for students to identify with injustice through the lens of their own experiences of injustice, as well as seeing injustice through the eyes of their peers.

This month, students discussed why this topic is important from their own personal perspective and how it relates to the work that they do and the world around them. The motto is "Don't be the same, be better!" There may be times where these conversations may make you or your child feel comfortable, uncomfortable or feelings of both and that is okay since the purpose is to learn together about social justice. We may make unintentional/unconscious mistakes, but we will acknowledge and own our mistakes, and continue learning so that we can *be better*. As community members in a democratic society, we are here to acknowledge these feelings and to work to dismantle systemic/structural racism to make our society a more equitable and just place.

EXTEND THE CONVERSATION

Students also discussed relationships between police and BIPOC in the United States. The Charlotte Observer recently wrote an article about the new police chief's response to a recent incident in the area. Read it with your family and discuss the impact of this on our city. ([Link](#))

