

Our district’s Equity Advocates have put together some resources to help you plan for an educational October.

These resources are not offered as a directive, nor are they mandated activities; as you read the options below, you will see that many of them depend on the capacity of your specific building / classroom educators, and the communities you have developed this year.

We highly recommend pre-viewing each resource and checking with your administrator prior to sharing them with groups or classes.

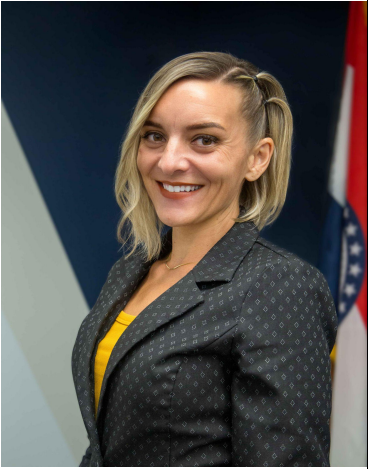




Your building’s equity Coach and the Advocates are available as conversation partners for administrators if needed.

	K-5 Read Aloud(s)	6-12 Resource(s)	Staff Growth / Learning	Community Non-profits / Restaurants
<p>Disability Employment Awareness Month</p> <p><u>Background</u></p>	<p><u>Just Ask</u>, by Sonia Sotomayor <u>Discussion Questions</u></p> <p><u>New this year</u></p> <p>Meesha Makes Friends, by Tom Percival <u>Discussion Questions</u></p>	<p><u>I Can PSA</u> and <u>Discussion Guide</u></p> <p><u>Additional Ideas for Educators</u></p> <p><u>New this year</u></p> <p><u>The Spoon Theory Class Activity</u></p> <p><u>Understanding Accessibility Class Activity</u></p> <p><u>How to interact with people with Disabilities</u></p>	<p><u>Judith Heumann Ted Talk</u></p> <p><u>15 Books: Disability Pride</u></p> <p>Apple TV: <u>CODA</u> NetFlix: <u>Crip Camp</u></p> <p><u>New this year</u></p> <p><u>8 Disability Podcasts Worth Listening</u></p> <p><u>11 disability podcasts that give advice, support and humor</u></p> <p><u>10 movies and films for adults about disabilities, accessibility and inclusion</u></p> <p><u>Article on how hiring individuals with disabilities can revolutionize a company</u></p>	<p><u>Variety KC</u></p> <p><u>The Whole Person</u></p> <p><u>Ability KC</u></p> <p><u>State of Missouri Disability Portal - Employment Resources</u></p> <p><u>Job training and employment programs for people with disabilities</u></p> <p><u>Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk</u> (Sat, Oct 28 @ Arrowhead)</p> <p><u>Special Olympics Missouri</u></p> <p><u>Easter Seals Community and Disability Services</u></p>

<p>Italian-American Heritage Month</p> <p><u>Background</u></p>	<p>All the Way to America by Dan Yaccarino <u>Discussion Questions with Read Aloud link</u></p> <p>New this year: Strega Nona: Her Story by Tomie de Paola <u>Discussion Questions with Read Aloud link</u></p>	<p><u>Italian Americans - Jigsaw Lesson</u> (3 options, 25-30 minutes)</p> <p>New this year: <u>Italian Americans - 6-12 lessons</u></p>	<p><u>Kansas City's Little Italy</u> (flatlandKC article)</p> <p><u>NYPL Italian-American Heritage Month Resources</u></p> <p><u>PBS documentary on Italian Americans</u></p>	<p><u>UNICO KC Chapter</u></p> <p><u>Historic Italian Restaurants in Kansas City</u></p>
<p>LGBTQ History Month</p> <p><u>Background</u></p>	<p>K-2: Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress <u>Discussion Protocol and Read Aloud Link</u></p> <p>3-5: Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag <u>Discussion Protocol and Read Aloud Link</u></p>	<p><u>LGBTQ History Icons Exploration Lesson</u> (6-8 grades; 45 min - 120 min options)</p> <p><u>Part of the Civil Rights Movement</u> (11-12th grades)</p> <p><u>LGBTQ History Lessons from One Institute</u></p>	<p>KC Black Queer History: * <u>New Article Series</u> (2023) by Nasir Anthony Montalvo</p> <p>Podcast episodes: * <u>LGBTQ History in the Classroom</u> * <u>How to Support Gender-Creative Children</u></p> <p><u>GLSEN LGBTQ History resources</u></p>	<p><u>KC Center for Inclusion</u></p> <p><u>TransformationsKC</u></p>

Have feedback? Did you use one of the resources above? Please [answer two quick questions here](#) to let us know your thoughts.

These resources were compiled by the following North Kansas City School District Equity Advocates:

				
Angela Nakoulima (She/Her) Equity Leadership Co-Chair	Ashna Abdulla (she/her) Equity Advocate	Chris Homiak (He/His) Equity Leadership Co-Chair	JD Hawes (They/Them) Equity Advocate	Margarita Araiza (she/her) Equity Advocate

Disability Employment Awareness Month (background)

National Disability Employment Awareness Month was established in 1988 by the US Congress. It is an opportunity to “pay tribute to the accomplishments of the men and women with disabilities” (Library of Congress) while also serving as an opportunity for organizations to ensure they are meeting the diverse needs of individuals with disabilities.

Italian-American Heritage Month (background)

Each October, millions of Americans of Italian descent come together to celebrate Italian American Heritage Month and reflect on their families’ histories, traditions, and values. This special heritage month was first celebrated in 1989 when it was proclaimed by President George H.W. Bush and the United States Congress to honor the achievements and contributions of Italian immigrants and their descendants living in the U.S.

LGBTQ History Month (background)

In 1994, Rodney Wilson, a Missouri high school teacher, believed a month should be dedicated to the celebration and teaching of gay and lesbian history, and gathered other teachers and community leaders. Gay and Lesbian History Month was endorsed by GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Education Association and other national organizations. In 2006, Equality Forum assumed responsibility for providing content, promotion and resources for LGBT History Month.