

## October's Heritage and Awareness Month Resources

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To: All Staff <allstaff@nkcschools.org>

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October Heritage Month 2023.pdf;

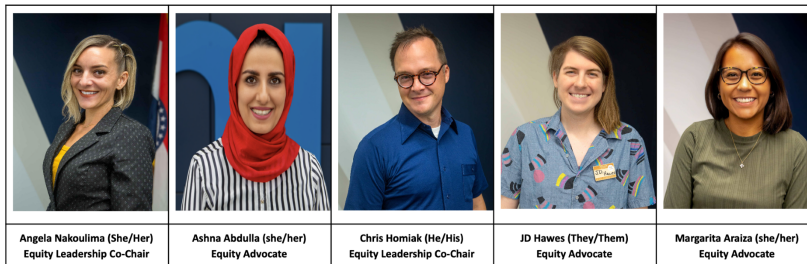
Good afternoon, NKC Schools!

### October is a month filled with great opportunities to learn and grow!

In addition to the continuation of Hispanic/Latin Heritage Month, our district's Equity Advocates have curated additional resources to help you plan for educational experiences as we honor:

- **Disability Employment Awareness Month,**
- **Italian-American Heritage Month, and**
- **LGBTQ History Month.**

This month's resources were developed by the following District Equity Advocates.



As a reminder, the Heritage Month resources are broken into four sections.

1. K-5 Resources
2. 6-12 Resources
3. Staff Growth/Learning
4. Community Events

**As always, it is important to recognize that— whether it is directly discussed or indirectly inferred—social identity is a critical component of our heritage month exploration. We are discussing topics that will likely reference the lived experiences of our students and colleagues. With that in mind, I ask that we remember the human experience is at the center of our learning this month and every month. Furthermore, be cognizant that our collective story is not a monolith. Instead, it is written, edited—and even at times revised —by both the *unique/personal experiences* of individuals and the *collective experiences* of the social identity groups to which we belong. Keep inclusion, belonging, and understanding as foundational pillars as we critically engage with our students and colleagues throughout this month.**

**These resources are not offered as a directive, nor are they mandated activities;** as you read the options included, you will see that many of them depend on the capacity of your

specific department, building, classroom educators, and the communities of belonging you have developed this year.

**Although the resources have been reviewed, I highly recommend previewing each activity and checking with your administrator prior to sharing them with groups or classes.** Your building's Equity Coach and the District Equity Advocates are available as conversation partners for administrators if needed.

Have a wonderful month of learning!

~Dr. Johnson