

JULY/AUGUST
2017

EQUITY
CONNECTOR

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equityalliancemn.org

Welcoming Our New Staff



Paula O'Loughlin is grateful to be joining Equity Alliance MN in the official capacity as Program Manager as she has been working for the organization as a part-time consultant for the last 6 years. Paula will be managing Classroom Partnerships as well as facilitating professional learning and organizational development for educators and school board members. Paula currently serves on the Stillwater Area School Board as Vice-Chair and enjoys being part of the collective effort to improve the educational outcomes for each and every student. Paula loves to travel and has lived in many cities across the country including New York City, Denver and Portland, Oregon. Paula also had the chance to return to her birth country of South Korea in 2006 when she and her husband, Sean, adopted their son Daniel. Paula lives with her husband, their two school-aged children, Kyra and Daniel, and their black lab, Remi. As a life-long learner, Paula one day dreams of returning to school to study law and sociology. Paula graduated from St. Catherine's University with a degree in Elementary Education with a Middle School Mathematics Specialty and is a licensed educator.



Sarah Neitz — I am so excited to start my journey with Equity Alliance. I have been in education for over 18 years and I am very passionate about providing the best education for both professionals and students. Being a part of AVID for the last 5 years has inspired me to continuously sharpen my skills and advocate for all students. Along with my time in education, I am fortunate enough to be a Co-head varsity coach for Park High School Girls Soccer, this program contains amazing coaches and student athletes that continuously make me a better person every day. My family is a big part of my life with my husband of 19 years, Dennis, my newly driving daughter, Abby, and my son, Max, who will be venturing into the high school next year.

Please help us welcome Paula and Sarah to the Equity Alliance MN Team, as they create spaces for students, educators and community members to share their stories and connect with one another. As injustice and inequality takes place in our communities and schools, we commit our work to strengthen cultural understanding across differences.

STUDENT PROGRAMS

Spots Still Open for Youth Executive Board

Open for students in South St. Paul, White Bear Lake, Park High School and Woodbury High School.

YEB is a multi-district group of high school students who meet weekly to build bonds through team-building activities, learn how to use their power in positive ways to influence change, and work to fulfill their leadership and academic potential.

If you are interested in being part of this amazing group, please visit our website www.equityalliancemn.org for the application process or to receive more information.

YEB's first meeting will be on Wednesday Sept. 13 3:00-6:30pm

Summer Programs

AVID PE/Health Class had its second year debut this Summer at Simley High School.

Students from Inver Grove Heights, Stillwater and Roseville came together for 5 weeks to fulfill their PE and Health requirement for the school year. Students took exclusive field trips to Inver Hills Community College where they took a tour and played disc golf on the campus course, at Target Field, students met with one of the Twin's trainer and walked through their trainings rooms. They also got the chance to tour and learn the ins and outs of what it takes to host a game at Target Field.



K-Camp was hosted at two sites this year at Hilltop Elementary and Stillwater Early Family Center, and served students from Inver Grove Heights, White Bear Lake and Stillwater School Districts. The two-week camps focuses on social and early learning skills that will support students' transition into Kindergarten.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

American History Through A Latino/Latina Lens

Dr. Jimmy Patino, Assistant Professor of Chicano and Latino Studies at the University of Minnesota, will develop educators' core knowledge of Chicano/a and Latino/a history, culture and politics. Participants will also grow in their culturally responsive pedagogy and cultural understanding of Latino/a students.

For more information on this series or to register, click [here](#).

Rescheduled* Science Teachers and Race: Let's Talk and Teach

Let's talk in our middle and high school classes about the pseudo-science (or social construction) of race developed in the 1700's and work together to modify current lessons in order to integrate these concepts. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

The Need for Equity Continues

MINNPOST 08/14/17

[Teachers of color reflect on navigating a mostly white education system](#)