# DIVERSITY and INCLUSION

January 22, 2021

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force

The Laconia School District's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, facilitated by the Office of School Wellness Director, was created in February 2020 and is comprised of the Superintendent's Office, School Board, building administrators, teachers, and other specialized school staff personnel. This stakeholder oversight committee meets no less than monthly.

Task Force Vision: Ensuring a safe, respectful, and inclusive culture that empowers our school community through education, awareness, and communication that promotes acceptance of every individual.

# Definition of Diversity

Diversity is the mosaic of people who bring a variety of backgrounds, styles, perspectives, values, abilities and beliefs as assets to the groups and organizations to which they belong.

This includes categories of culture, socioeconomic background, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disabilities, religion, and life experiences.

#### Inclusion

- Embracing students from all backgrounds that are underrepresented groups such as first generation, low-income, LGBTQ, disabled, etc.
- Access for diverse groups of people to decision-making, resources, and opportunity.
- Involvement and empowerment, where the inherent worth and dignity of all people are recognized.
- Active, intentional, and ongoing engagement with diversity in the curriculum, in the cocurriculum and in communities (intellectual, social, cultural, geographical) with which individuals might connect in ways that increases awareness, content knowledge, cognitive sophistication and empathic understanding of the complex ways individuals interact within systems and institutions.

https://chemistry.stanford.edu/news/what-does-diversity-and-inclusion-mean-

http://www.aacu.org/making-excellence-inclusive

#### Diversity and Inclusion Task Force Mission

#### <u>Task Force Mission:</u> To serve as the oversight committee for:

- a) Development and implementation of a coordinated plan to prevent, assess the presence of, intervene in, and respond to critical incidents of discrimination on the basis of all equal rights protected under federal and state laws.
- b) Development of policy(s) that informs our in the area of safety and inclusion.
- c) Development of protocol, practice, and procedures for prevention, assessment, intervention, and response to purported cases of discrimination.

#### Diversity and Inclusion Task Force Mission cont.

- d) Building and student plans, cases of purported discrimination, professional development implementation, and integration into K-12 curriculum.
- e) Supporting athletics' teams and participation practices for the safety and inclusion of all students.
- f) Conducting facilities environmental scan and suggested updates.

#### Related Resources: Laconia Policies

**AC Equal Rights** 

ACAC Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Process

ACAC-P Form to File a Title IX Complaint

AC-E Non-Discriminations, Equal Opportunity Employment and District Discrimination Plan

ACE Procedure Safeguards for Non-Discrimination

JICK Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Policy

JRA Student Records

JRA-P Student Records and Access Procedures

#### Taking Our Pulse – Surveying Staff

Teacher and staff perspectives on how well the school creates an equitable teaching and learning environment for students and adults

- Belonging
- Cultural Awareness and Action (Adult Focus)
- Cultural Awareness and Action (Student Focus)
- ☐ Educating All Students
- Professional Learning About Equity

ESS				
Breakout Room 1: Staff Last Names A -G	Breakout Room 2: Staff Last Names H-P	Breakout Room 3: Staff Last Names Q- Z		
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Deb Tivey	Whitney McCallum	Jim Carmody	
Ann Peterson	Sonya Roberts	Kevin Bisson	
Joanna Bergman	Mandi Youssef	Susan OH	
Jonathan Sandlin	Kelsea Doucet	Karen Muthersbaugh	
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Dani Janos			
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LHS Breakout Rooms					
Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6
Howe	O'Donnell	Price	Trimble	Witham	Elliason
Hurley	Paul	Reiner	Young	Brady	Rich
Hinds	Harriman	Krivitsky	LoPardo	S. McDonough	Shepard
Monterose	Ball	C. McDonough	Myers	Ashworth	Colquhoun
Whartenby	Wheaton	Adolfsson	Clattenburg	Colby	Cook
Labbe	Winter	Gardner	S. Leavitt-Carlson	Mwingira	Roberts
Paronto	Abraham	Baker	Bolduc	Conrad	Crockford
Aldrich	Hamill	Lacroix	Rodrigue	Schofield	Tivey
Pert	Brody	Clary	Diggins	Martin	Nudd-Homeyer
Stivali	Riendeau	Schneeweiss	Schofield	Dea	Reed
Lori Baldwin	Bean	Finch	Greenfield	Gibbs	Stefanik
Brianna Beaupre	Nancy Borski	Sanborn	Greenbaum	Susan Rhodes	Kathy Smith
Sharon Bickford	Pat Calabrese	Laronda Clark-Patten	Laura Medeiros	Rodney Roy	Donna Stivali
Marianne Tarling	April Casa	Samantha Hicks	Jeff Monier	Tracy Schultz	Monique Swormstedt
Sleeper	Nason	BettyAnne Holloran	Chris Rhatigan	Brenda Walker	Robdau
Warrender				de la Vergne	
Facilitator: Mollie Greeley	Facilitator: Ivy Leavitt- Carlson	Facilitator: Rob Bennett	Facilitator: Dave Bartlett	Facilitator: Craig Kozens	Facilitator: Tracy Nudd- Homeyer

## Survey Results: Group Discussion Report Out

30 seconds or less!

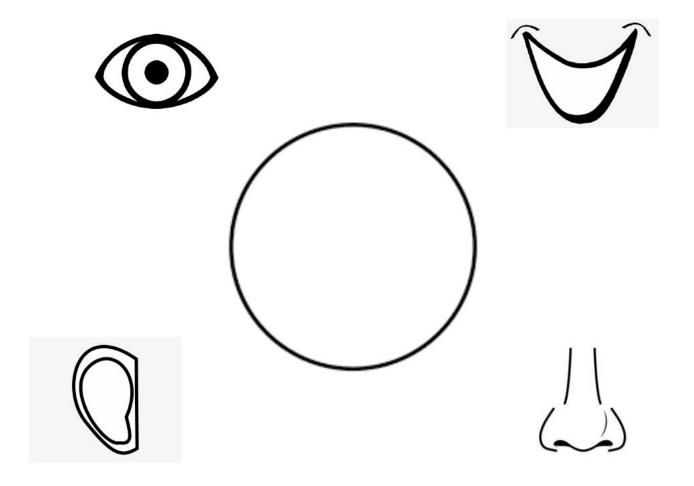
#### <u>ACTIVITY</u>

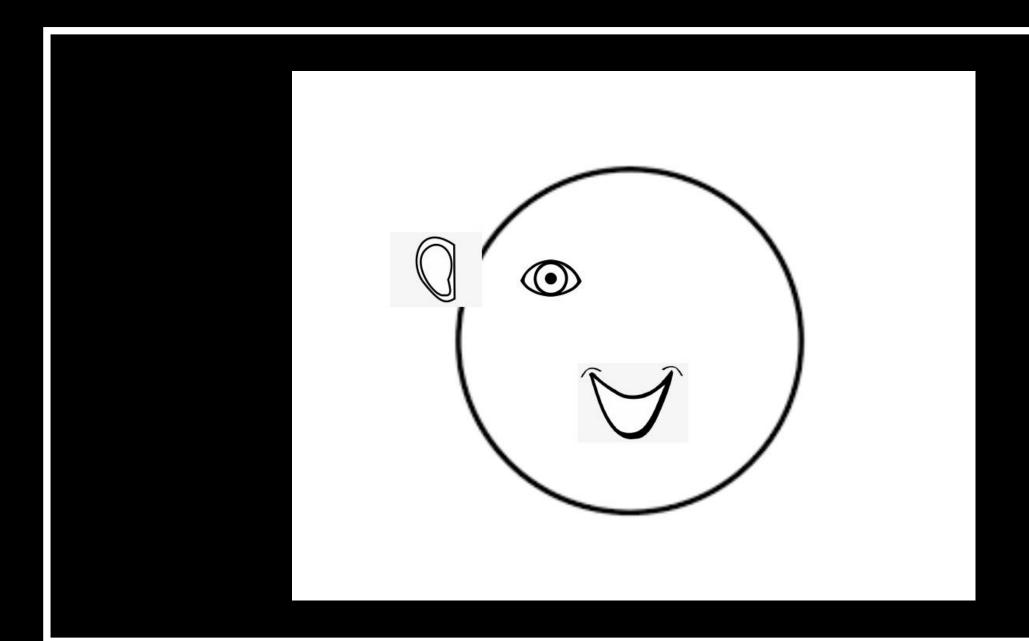
How Complete is our Understanding of Race?

On a piece of paper, please draw a circle (it is going to be a face) that takes up the whole paper.

I am going to read 8 statements. If you can answer "Yes" to the statement please add a body part to your face (an eye, ear, nose, mouth).

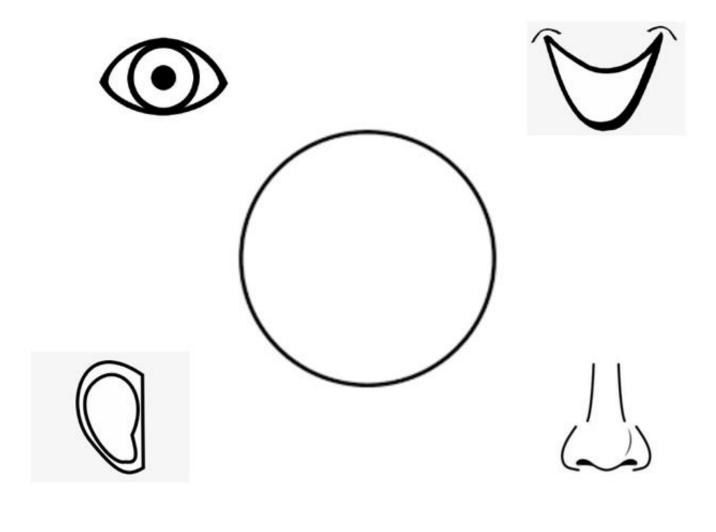
If you answer "No" to the statement don't do anything.





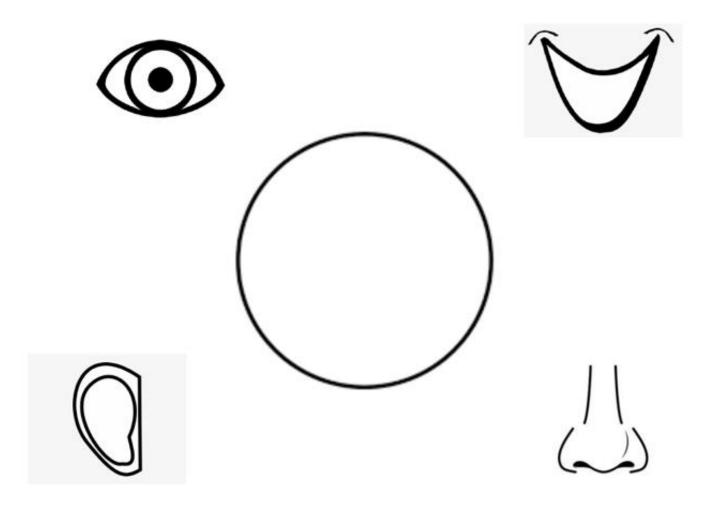
#### Statement #1:

At least one member of my immediate family (parents, siblings, grandparents) is from a racial/ethnic group other than my own.



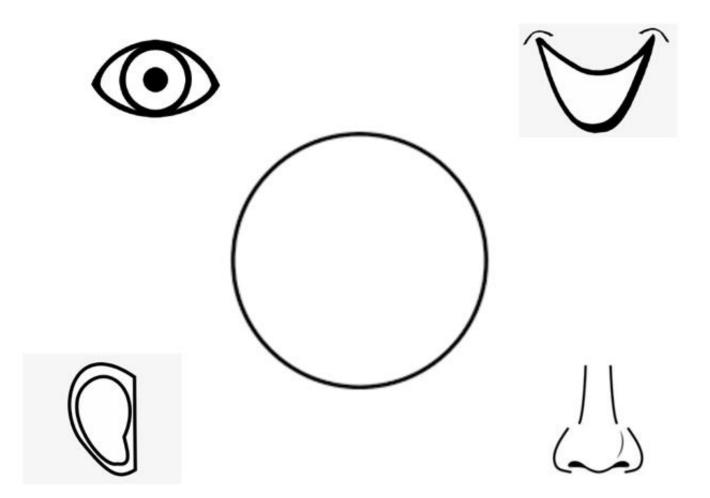
#### Statement #2:

At least one family in the neighborhood of my childhood home (one of about 10 homes) was of a racial/ethnic group other than my own.



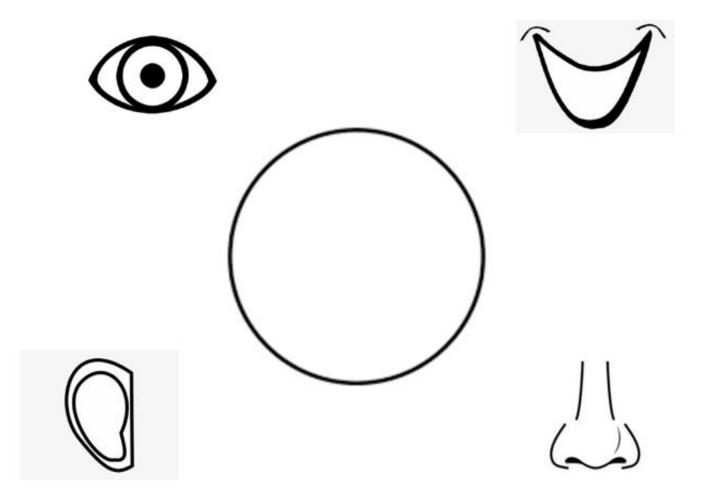
#### Statement #3:

At least one of my close childhood friends was from a racial/ethnic group other than my own.



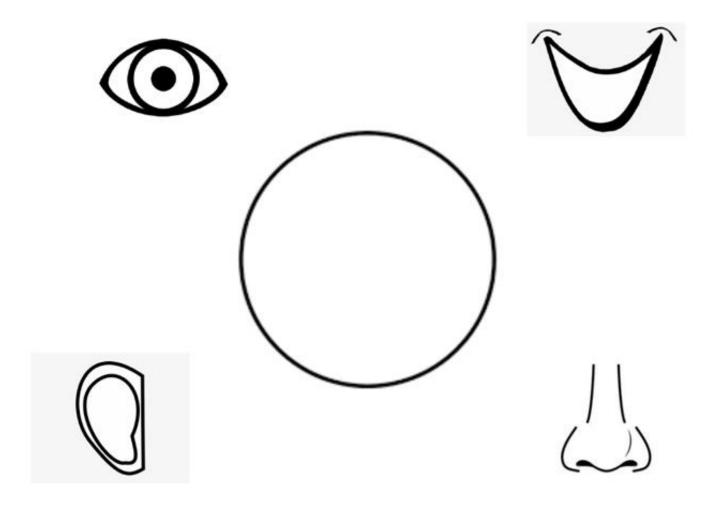
#### Statement #4:

The religious group, synagogue, mosque or church I attended was racially mixed (at least 20 percent of the members were of a racial group other than my own). Least one member of my immediate family (parents, siblings, grandparents) is from a racial/ethnic group other than my own.



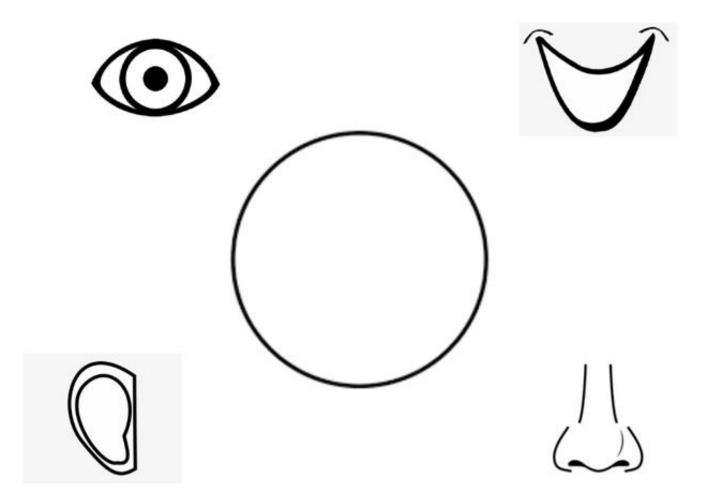
#### Statement #5:

The schools I attended, K-12, were racially mixed (at least 20 percent of the student body were from a racial group or groups other than my own).



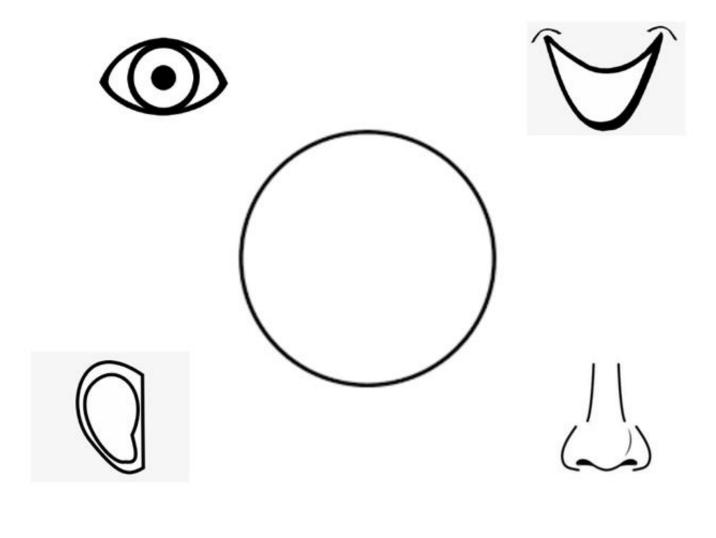
#### Statement #6:

At least one of my school teachers, or coaches was of a racial/ethnic group other than my own.



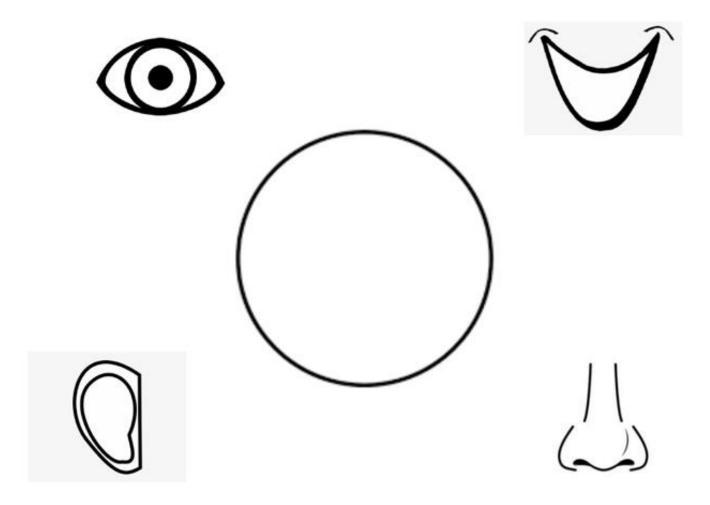
#### Statement #7:

I grew up in a home where I NEVER heard my parents or siblings say a negative word about groups of people by race or ethnicity.



#### Statement #8:

Of the friends my parent(s) socialized with and regularly invited to our home, at least one was from a racial/ethnic group other than their own.



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#### **Discussion Questions**

 What does this activity reveal about your understanding of race?

•Where have/do you learn about race and people of a different race than you?

•What might you not know about people who are of a different race than yourself?

# Activity: Group Discussion Report Out

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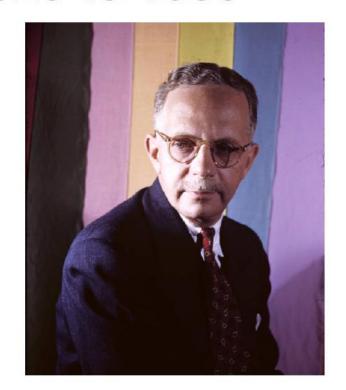
What is Race?

Definition of Race

Race is a powerful social category forged historically through oppression, slavery, and conquest. Most geneticists agree that racial taxonomies at the DNA level are invalid. Genetic differences within any designated racial group are often greater than differences between racial groups. Most genetic markers do not differ sufficiently by race to be useful in medical research (Duster, 2009; Cosmides, 2003)

### Walter White - Head of the NAACP 1929 to 1955

"I am a Negro. My skin is white, my eyes are blue, my hair is blond. The traits of my race are nowhere visible upon me."





# Race is a Social Construct

THESE TWINS SHOW THAT RACE

IS A SOCIAL CONSTRUCT

(NATIONALGEOGRAPHIC.COM)

#### Take Aways

- There is more genetic diversity within races than between races.
- Race was used to justify slavery.
- Our understanding of race, and what defines race, has constantly changed.

Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man White Allergies? - Uncomfortable
Conversations with a Black Man Ep. 2 w/ Matthew McConaughey YouTube

### Office of School Wellness Website

https://laconiaschoolwellness.weeb ly.com/

# It's Okay to Talk About Race Resources for Educators, Families and Students

Click here



#### INCLUSIVE TO EXPANSIVE LGBTQ Resources



## Office of School Wellness

#### What is SOGIE?



SOGIE is an acronym that stands for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression. EVERYBODY has one!

SOGIE RESOURCES

#### Suggested Reading



Becoming Nicole This Is How It Always Is Gender Born, Gender Made Identity Safe Classrooms









#### **Stanford University**

Gendered Innovations Engineering, Environment

in Science, Health & Medicine. Engineering, and



SAU67

#### Sources