What We’re Reading this Week

ADL Education recommends articles and blogs that highlight stories about anti-bias, social justice and general education

March 2, 2020

- “A massive new study of North Carolina classrooms over nearly 20 years finds that as racial segregation between schools went down, the racial isolation within the classrooms inside those schools went up.” Hidden Segregation Within Schools Is Tracked in New Study (Education Week)

- “Rather than just talking at parents — and asking them for money — research shows being welcoming, responsive and listening can create true learning
partnerships.” What the research says about the best way to engage parents (Hechinger Report)

- "I think that no student should have to be told by their health teacher that they can’t talk about their identity. I think that just really hurts a lot of teenagers. And I think it’s definitely something that needs to change." LGBTQ Youth Fight For Equality In Sex Ed In South Carolina Classrooms (NPR Education)

- "These works are filled with colorful images, talking animals, and fun stories that students are able to follow, preparing them to analyze and discuss more complex, real-world examples of similar ideas.” Scaffolding Complex Topics in Middle School Social Studies (Edutopia)

February 10, 2020

- "Those terrifying and traumatizing drills — they have no basis in fact and they harm more than they have ever helped." 2 Big Teachers Unions Call For Rethinking Student Involvement In Lockdown Drills (Mind/Shift)

- "While the trends are headed in the right direction in education, the low proportion of women and individuals of color in the most powerful district position in education is still troubling." Survey: Superintendents still overwhelmingly white, male (Education Dive)

- "Streamline decision-making and improve communication—and staff buy-in—with these simple strategies.” 7 Tips for Effective School Leadership (Edutopia)

- “These practices continue to exist, even though every mainstream medical and mental health organization rejects the approach, because of enduring homophobia and false beliefs around being gay.” For Years Utah's LGBTQ Children Were Subjected to Conversion Therapy. That’s About to End. (Newsweek)
When presented with options, white parents choose schools that are more white and more affluent than other choices available to them. White Parents Say They Value Integrated Schools. Their Actions Speak Differently (Education Week)

October 28, 2019

I see myself facing the facts, taking action, and offering comfort when I feel stronger, and taking breaks, reaching out for support, and looking to others to carry on when I get tired. How to Talk to Kids about Climate Change (NPR Education)

New findings suggest angst over the technology is misplaced. Social Media Has Not Destroyed A Generation (Scientific American)

When it comes to talking about racial inequity, you are, in fact, calling out the system. The Challenging, Often Isolating Work of School District Chief Equity Officers (Education Week)

Framing questions the right way—and scaffolding the right kinds of responses—can help teachers avoid blank stares and awkward silences. How to Increase Participation By Asking Better Questions (Edutopia)

If you view yourself as different, then you're going to be less likely — often, not always — to share. You're less likely to take a risk. You're less likely to volunteer an answer. How the Gender Gap in STEM Might Get its Start in Elementary School (Mind/Shift)

October 21, 2019

Much of this information was presented in a negative manner that made autism seem like something scary or tragic ... I decided to fill the gap. My goal was to be a source of information for people who are wondering if they are autistic, or anyone who wants to learn more about autism and what being
autistic means." On YouTube, people with disabilities create content to show and normalize their experiences (Washington Post)

- “By bringing attention to the existing wage gap between men and women, the players want to spur change that allows the youth league to better represent the city it serves.” Burlington girls soccer team stands for #equalpay — and gets carded (Burlington Free Press)

- "They've studied the way that our young men interact online, and they have looked at what these boys need," she said. "And they have learned how to fill those needs in order to entice them into propaganda." A mother's warning: If you have white teen sons, listen up ... (CNN)

- "The problem is there are a lot of districts and a lot of states who think civics education is just a term—give students a book and have them read out to the class about the Continental Congress. That’s not enough. It doesn’t answer the question of why and what does that have to do with me in 2019." Which States Saw a Surge in Teenage Voters in 2018? (Education Week)

- “The more I read, the more I want to read because each additional book provides insight into the lives of my students and helps equip me to facilitate complex conversations in my classroom.” Lessons for Teachers in Books About Young Adults (Edutopia)