Making a Space for Civility in Alexandria City Public Schools

School Board Retreat
Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr.
Superintendent
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EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS

Food for Thought

ACTUALLY, WE WHO ENGAGE IN NONVIOLENT DIRECT ACTION ARE NOT THE CREATORS OF TENSION. WE MERELY BRING TO THE SURFACE THE HIDDEN TENSION THAT IS ALREADY ALIVE. WE BRING IT OUT IN THE OPEN, WHERE IT CAN BE SEEN AND DEALT WITH. LIKE A BOIL THAT CAN NEVER BE CURED SO LONG AS IT IS COVERED UP BUT MUST BE OPENED WITH ALL ITS UGLINESS TO THE NATURAL MEDICINES OF AIR AND LIGHT, INJUSTICE MUST BE EXPOSED, WITH ALL THE TENSION ITS EXPOSURE CREATES, TO THE LIGHT OF HUMAN CONSCIENCE AND THE AIR OF NATIONAL OPINION BEFORE IT CAN BE CURED.

- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -



Etymology of Civility

Derives from Latin word civilitas, which refers to citizens' willingness to give of themselves for the greater good of the civitas, or city

Reference: https://medium.com/@robinoula/what-does-it-mean-to-be-civil-8e8ba8472b5a



The NEED for Civility - The Dual Pandemic



Alexandria City Public Schools

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS

The NEED for Civility - ACPS Strategic Plan

Mission: ensure success by inspiring students and addressing barriers to learning.

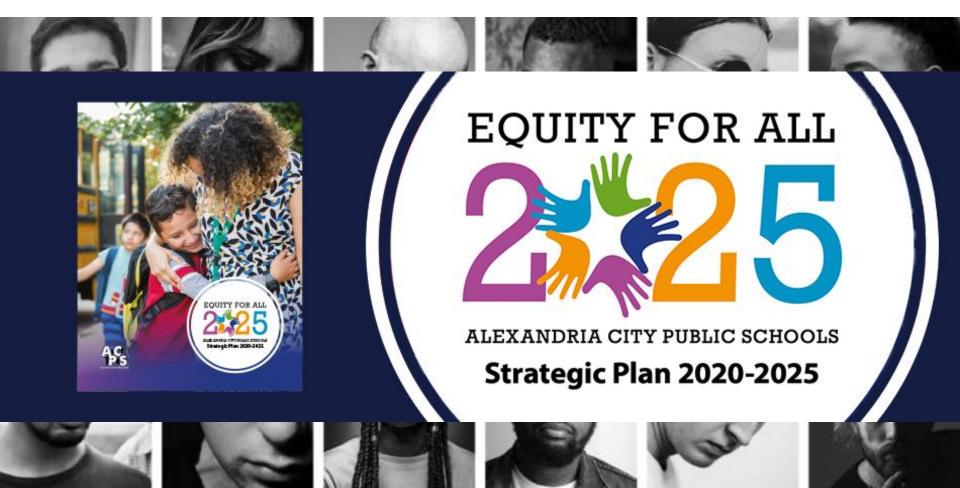
Vision: Empowering all students to thrive in a diverse and ever-changing world.

Core Values: Welcoming, Empowering, Equity-Focused, Innovative and Results-Driven

Strategic Goals: Systemic Alignment; Instructional Excellence; Student Accessibility and Support; Strategic Resource Allocation; and Family and Community Engagement



The NEED for Civility - Racial Equity at the Heart of our Work



What Civility Should Be?

Less about good manners and more about good citizenship

Less about <u>orderly conduct</u> and more about <u>compassion and care</u>

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Being Civil is...

To be civil is to care for our community so deeply that we find the courage to step past the orderly and embrace the comfort with <u>service</u> of the greater good through <u>compassion</u> and <u>care</u>.



The Call to Action for Civility

- Establish School Board policy to address expectation of civility and racial inequities
- Invest in resources to support civil environment
- Support the practices to implement work
- Monitor outcomes and hold division accountable

