

## Minority Student Achievement Network MSAN Monthly, February 2017

Hello MSAN Colleagues,

While February is Black History Month, many educators are thinking differently about what Black History looks like in their classrooms and schools. Read this archived speech given by an MSAN Scholar who asks, "[Why stop the \[Black History\] celebration?](#)" (see page 3) and consider these resources as you study and celebrate African American History all year-round: [Smithsonian-National Museum of African American History and Culture](#); [National Park Service – African American Heritage](#); and the [National Endowment for the Humanities – Black History Month](#).

### **EQUITY IN ACTION**

#### **MSAN Scholars Having an Impact**

MSAN Scholars from Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District (WI) recently led a discussion with their school board on the action plan they created at the 2016 MSAN Student Conference, which outlined outreach efforts to change school culture regarding race and inclusion. Part of this outreach work was the creation of this [video on microaggressions](#) by MSAN Scholar Malaika M. Also look over [this article](#) on the school board and superintendent's reactions to Middleton's [MSAN Student Conference](#) action plan. You can look forward to a breakout session facilitated by Middleton-Cross Plains staff and MSAN Scholars at the [MSAN Institute](#) in April!

### **EQUITY-FOCUSED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Classroom or PD Resources for Learning about Microaggressions**

[See this worksheet](#) which you can use with the MSAN Scholar [video](#) on microaggressions referenced above. Scroll through the document for a complete high school lesson plan from the Anti-Defamation League, including classroom exercises and a persuasive writing assignment. It is also easily adaptable for use with adult learners. For a completed version of the worksheet, [see this presentation](#) from Professor Derald Wing Sue of Teachers College-Columbia University, who has published extensively on racial microaggressions and cultural competence.

### **LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

#### **Supports for Equity Leadership**

Education Northwest's [Leadership for Equity Assessment & Development \(LEAD\) Tool](#) helps school leadership teams examine practices and policies through the lens of 10 research-based equitable practices. It also helps to bring families, communities, and other stakeholders into the conversation. It provides professional learning resources, including articles, videos, and the latest research. As a bonus, the LEAD Tool aligns with the National Policy Board's [Professional Standards for Educational Leaders](#). Be sure to also look at Education Northwest's YouTube Channel, which includes videos from LEAD Tool users on topics from constructing and equity vision to [equity in hiring and placing school district personnel](#).

### **RESEARCH YOU CAN USE**

#### **Racial Microaggressions: What They Are, What They are Not, and Why They Matter**

[See this concise piece on microaggressions](#) from researchers Lindsay Pérez Huber and Daniel Solórzano from UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center's *Latino Policy & Issues Brief*. It includes models for understanding racial microaggressions, recommendations for disrupting them, and a concise summary of research on the topic.

**MSAN INSTITUTE APRIL 27-28, MADISON, WI**

Educators and partners from MSAN districts around the country will be gathering in Madison this April 27-28 for the annual [MSAN Institute](#) conference. Please consider [presenting a 90-minute breakout session](#) at the Institute on your work to understand and eliminate racial opportunity and achievement gaps in schools. Questions? Contact MSAN at 608-263-1565 or [msan@wcer.wisc.edu](mailto:msan@wcer.wisc.edu).

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