



Office of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives **EMANCIPATION CURRICULUM**



2020-2021

Buffalo Public Schools



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Greetings Colleagues,

The CLRI Emancipation Curriculum was produced through a collaborative effort between the BPS Office of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives and a dedicated team of classroom teachers and specialists. A resounding thank you to the CLRI Curriculum developers and outstanding teacher leaders for their support, commitment and creativity in ensuring that joy and historic accuracy are centered in the lives of ALL of our students. Very special thank you to the CLRI Emancipation Curriculum Team listed below:

Office of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives	
Dr. Fatima Morrell	Associate Superintendent of CLRI
Mrs. Dalphne Bell	Director of CLRI
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Leslie Johnson	Jerry Piwko
Melissa Kenney	Rich Pyszczyk
Lori King	Colleen Waddington

Please infuse these lessons as much as possible into your current curriculum. If you have a question or want to provide feedback about a particular lesson, resource, or strategy please feel free to contact the Office of CLRI at CLRIOffice@buffaloschools.org.

We thank you for your passion and support! Together we will catalyze positive change by promoting and maintaining a culturally and linguistically responsive and emancipatory learning environment for our wonderful BPS scholars and their families.

Sincerely,
The BPS CLRI Emancipation Curriculum Team

The Emancipation Curriculum 2020-2021

Purpose:

As a response to the twin pandemics of Covid-19 and systemic oppression and racism, the Black Lives Matter (BLM) Guiding Principles have been included as foundational teaching strategies in an effort to center joy, equity, empathy and cultural relevance in the lives of students. As we address equity, anti-racism, social emotional learning, and culturally responsive opportunities that edify Black and Brown voices in daily instruction, the National BLM Guiding Principles provide a strong equity framework for teaching and learning. Said framework allows for us to build and teach ethnic curriculums that infuse key learnings, historic contributions, and current events germane to the focus cultures of African American, Latinx, Indigenous, and New Americans who are representative of the majority of the student population in the Buffalo Public Schools.

How and when is it integrated into the daily curriculum?

The CLRI Emancipation Curriculum is split into six grade bands (PK-1, 2-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12). In each of the six grade bands there are 20-25 lessons that focus on literacy, criticality, and the ethnicities represented in our BPS community (African American, Latinx, Indigenous and New American). These rigorous and highly diverse, cultural inclusion lessons are aligned to the current NYS Common Core Curriculum Standards in English Language Arts and Social Studies at all grade levels. As these lessons are infused into the standing core curriculum, it is required that all 7-12 English Language Arts and Social Studies teachers, as well as all Pre-K through Grade 6 teachers, include these lessons in their daily instructional plans to ensure students have access to learning topics that are culturally inclusive and utilize District approved resources. The Emancipation Curriculum infuses the following curriculum resources amongst others: The New Jersey Amistad Wed-based Curriculum, the New York Times 1619 Project, the Library of Congress, National Coalition of Black Lives Matter at Schools, myON Diversity Resources, Teaching Tolerance, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Zinn Education Project. These resources support in teaching from a lens of historical accuracy, raising awareness and appreciation for Black and Brown cultures in our communities, and multiple perspectives on social justice and equity.

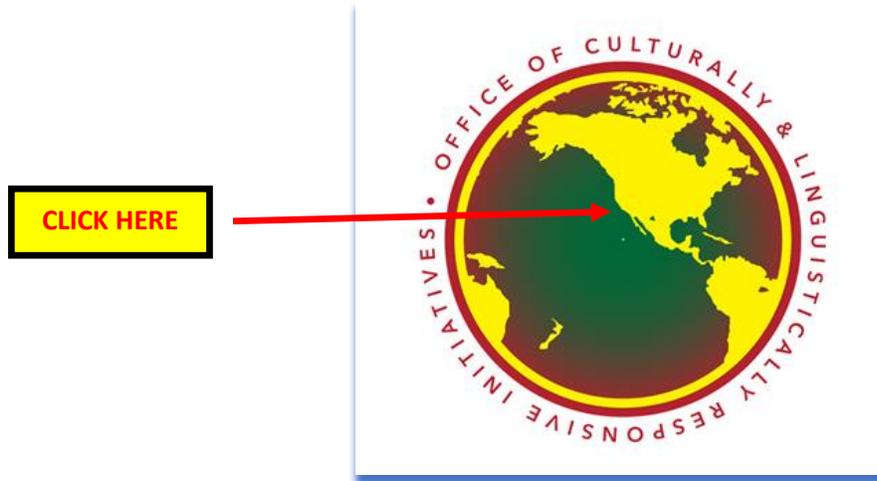
Training:

District training prioritizes implementation of the Emancipation Curriculum and pedagogy, and anti-racist educational practices. Teachers and administrators are trained to understand the importance of supporting and providing opportunities for students to see themselves and others from historically marginalized communities as empowered voices, change makers, and actors in daily instruction. Teachers and administrators are trained to problematize their own implicit biases and begin their anti-racist journey in dismantling systemic racism in schools and classrooms. Through Disproportionality, Superintendent's Conference Day training, and the CLRI Listening and Feedback Tours, teachers and administrators are given pedagogical strategies and philosophical understandings for implementing the Emancipation Curriculum and anti-racist best practices. Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, high school staff will attend CLRI professional development focused on dismantling systemic racism and the implementation of the Emancipation Curriculum. Additionally, the Office of CLRI is currently hosting several Parent Town Hall meetings to increase parent and community understanding of the value of implementing a diverse curriculum, and to respond to parents' questions and receive feedback on future culturally and linguistically responsive curriculum initiatives.

Access:

The Emancipation Curriculum was designed to be accessed by district administrators, teachers, students, parents and extended families and caregivers. Please follow the steps listed below to access the Emancipation Curriculum Interactive Timeline, lesson infusion guides, and full Emancipation Curriculum for grades PK-12.

1. Click the image below to access the Office of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives website:



2. Click anywhere on the image of the CLRI Emancipation Interactive Timeline to access the complete Timeline, Emancipation Infusion Guides and complete Emancipation Curriculum by grade band.

The Office of CLRI is proud to announce the release of the ***Emancipation Curriculum***

Please click the timeline below to access the Emancipation Infusion Guides and the complete Emancipation Curriculum by grade band.

Emancipation Curriculum Lessons

Preview this cluster of lessons and materials by clicking on LESSON LINKS, PRETESTS AND SCENES and the The infusion guide and full curriculum can be accessed by clicking the PK-1 GRADES GUIDE and GRADES PK-1 CURRICULUM LINK.

PK-1 **Grades PK-1 Curriculum Link**

LESSON LINK: Try Bread
Students will read to explain the importance of fry bread for many Native Americans. They will discuss how something becomes a tradition and the use of fry bread in family celebrations. **PK-1** will apply this new learning to their own lives and write and illustrate to share their favorite tradition.

LESSON LINK: Cesar Chavez
Students will close read a child friendly biography of leader and social activist Cesar Chavez to determine how he helped communities of people fight for fair and equal labor rights. Students will demonstrate their learning and inspiration from the study of Chavez by drawing a picture of helping a friend or classmate and completing the sentence starter *I can help a friend by _____ just as Cesar Chavez helped people.*

1843 **1896** **1965** **2020**

LESSON LINK: Separate but Equal
Students will investigate how children and adults have rights and responsibilities at home, school, in the classroom, and in the community. They will discuss how these rules affect children and adults and why people make and change rules. After an introduction to Plessy v. Ferguson and resulting discussion, students will write, draw, and share out what equal means to them.

LESSON LINK: Cultural Games
Students will explore the characteristics of their own culture and the ways in which their culture is both like and unlike the cultures of their classmates. They will write about, illustrate, share out and discuss specific games they play related their culture.

3. Now that you have accessed the complete Emancipation Lesson Interactive Timeline, please find your grade band of choice and select one of the following options:

Option A:

Instantly preview lessons and materials in your grade band (PK-12) by clicking on **LESSON LINKS**, **PHOTOS** and **ICONS**.

Option B:

Click the bright yellow **INFUSION GUIDE** button to access the Emancipation Lesson Infusion Guide for each grade band. This document contains Emancipation Lesson descriptions and links, curriculum infusion suggestions, and skill, standard, and content alignment to diverse literature and lessons.

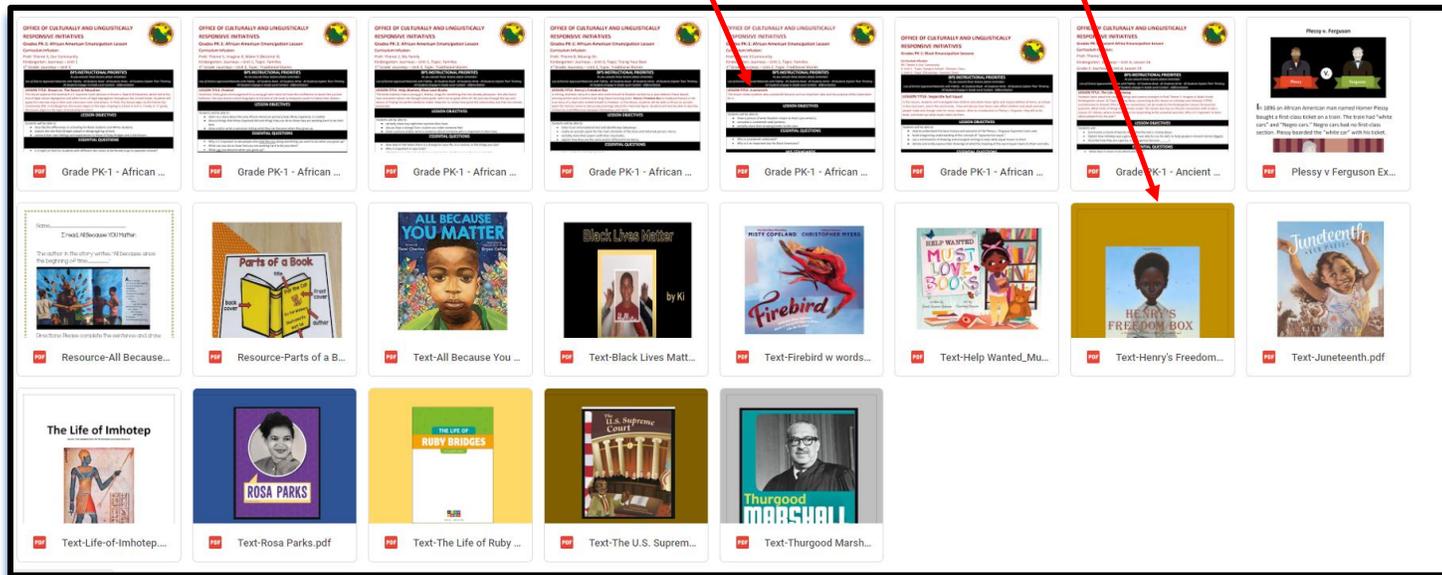
Option C:

Click the pink **CURRICULUM LINK** to access the Emancipation Lesson database for each grade band. We organized the lessons at each grade level into ethnicity bands, i.e., African American, Indigenous, Latinx, and New American.

The graphic is titled "Emancipation Curriculum Lessons" and features a central timeline with four key dates: 1843, 1896, 1965, and 2020. Above the timeline, there are four lesson link boxes: "LESSON LINK: Fry Bread" (1843), "LESSON LINK: Separate but Equal" (1896), "LESSON LINK: Cesar Chavez" (1965), and "LESSON LINK: Cultural Games" (2020). Each lesson link includes a brief description of the activity and a "PHOTO" icon. To the left of the timeline is a yellow box labeled "PK-1 INFUSION GUIDE". To the right is a pink circle labeled "Grades PK-1 Curriculum Link". The background of the graphic features a circular collage of cultural images and text.

The image shows a screenshot of a Google Drive folder. The address bar at the top displays the URL: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XuNNShozfGKr_KxHB3jd4hdFKaA9NBk. Below the address bar, the word "Drive" is visible. Underneath, the word "Folders" is displayed. There are five folder icons in a row: "African American", "Indigenous", "Latinx", "New American", and "PK-1 - Emancipation L...". A red arrow points from the "PK-1 - Emancipation L..." folder icon to the "PK-1 INFUSION GUIDE" button in the timeline graphic above.

Click on an ethnicity band to choose and download a **LESSON** and the related teaching **MATERIALS**.



NOTE: The CLRI Emancipation Interactive Timeline, Emancipation Infusion Guides and complete Emancipation Curriculum can also be found on the [BPS Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Initiatives - Section 1 Schoology Course](#). The access code for this course is 5G25-CTP6-NQGZV

