

“This is Equity” Discussion Question Ideas

Working with Alliance for Continuous Improvement partners, Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation developed this video as a way to help local educators, families, students and community groups engage with their schools, districts and counties in important conversations to better understand and meet the needs of every student. The video provides a concise way to frame the topic of equity. *These sample questions can be used to begin facilitating deeper conversations.*

Initial reactions

- What is something you heard in the video that stood out – and perhaps made you see or think about in a new way?
- What would you like to learn more about?
- One of the speakers asks, “How can we do everything that we can to meet children where they are at?” What does this mean to you? For our schools?

Listening to students and families and understanding their needs

- How is our school/district learning more about the needs of ALL of our students, such as:
 - What are their goals and aspirations?
 - What skills, experiences and/or programs would help them feel best prepared to go to college and enter careers?
 - What qualities and characteristics are important to them to lead happy and healthy lives?
 - What do they find most engaging about school?
 - What academic supports do they find most helpful?
 - What types of social-emotional supports do they need?
 - What barriers or obstacles do they or their peers face?
 - What ideas do they have for improvements?
- How can we make sure the needs of all of our students and families are addressed in the district’s Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)?

Data and information

- What does data (such as information on the California School Dashboard – www.caschooldashboard.com) tell us about our school and district?
 - Which indicators show we are doing well?
 - Which indicators show where substantial improvement is needed?
 - Where do inequities exist among different groups of students?
 - What policies, practices and procedures should we be discussing and changing to close gaps?

Belonging and equity

- In what ways is our school/school district helping to create a sense of belonging?
- In what ways is our school/school district thinking about equity?

