

Middle School Journal

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Racial Justice and the Middle Grades

Sanitizing curriculum in ways that render concepts like systemic racism, privilege, and bias as invisible or non-existent moves away from foundational principles outlined in *The Successful Middle School: This We Believe* (Bishop & Harrison, 2021). To this point, recently proposed and passed bills in various states across the U.S. are not philosophically aligned to practices that we value as middle-level educators. For example, Critical Race Theory (CRT) has reemerged as a contemporary topic of debate in K-12 schools. However, CRT is a useful philosophical lens that illuminates how educational policies, beliefs, and practices sustain educational racism and thereby offers a pathway toward creating equitable schooling experiences and outcomes for students who the education system historically has failed (Ladson-Billings, 1998; Stovall, 2006).

While this current debate within education is concerning, it also highlights the many ways that middle level educators and community members are joining together in resistance by incorporating discourse around race in schools. For this special issue, submitted manuscripts should address one or more of the following questions:

- How have teachers or schools implemented practices that promote racial justice in their middle grades curriculum and school community?
- How are middle schools addressing pushback from legislation, policies, changes in curriculum, instruction, and assessment?
- How are middle schools engaging their educators and staff in professional development centered around racial justice?
- How are teacher education programs responding to the need for middle level teacher candidates to acquire the dispositions and skills needed to enact antiracist pedagogies in middle level classrooms?
- How are educational researchers using CRT and other antiracist frameworks to provide insight to systemic racism in middle schools?

Submit by September 1, 2022.

If you are submitting a manuscript for a themed issue, please specify the theme in your cover letter. Address inquiries to Editors Kathleen Brinegar, Lisa Harrison, and Ellis Hurd at msjeditors@gmail.com. All manuscripts must be submitted online at: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/msj> The Middle School Journal's [submission guidelines](#) help guide authors in manuscript preparation.

Middle School Journal, a refereed journal, is an official publication and a Professional Membership benefit of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE). Published five times per year, the journal offers articles that promote quality middle level education and contribute to an understanding of the educational and developmental needs of youth between the ages of 10 and 15.