

DIVERSITY

Students, parents, community members:

Don't miss these talks on diversity!

Both talks are free and open to the public (no registration required), and will take place on the Green Meadow campus.

Tuesday, April 2, 7:30pm

Why Should We Talk About Race? / With Dr. Shelly Tochluk



The dominant culture in the United States holds that being “colorblind” is the best way to move past historic and contemporary race issues. But, what if our best intentions were undermined by unintended consequences that come with this stance? If it is true that colorblindness has a significant downside, can we imagine the possibility that our society is ready for an updated approach to race issues? Dr. Shelly Tochluk is an educator with a background in depth psychology and the author of *Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk about Race and How to Do It*. Important for all, her presentations reveal the damage that a “colorblind” perspective often unintentionally creates and the benefits that come with being race conscious, including more authentic and trusting relationships across race and a reduction in anxiety when discussing race.

Wednesday, April 24, 7:30pm

Gender Diversity / With Joel Baum Of Gender Spectrum



Despite efforts to be inclusive of all students, one basic area of student diversity that schools rarely acknowledge is gender. While many children fit easily and naturally into our culture’s binary gender options, others do not. For these children and their families, school represents one of the greatest areas of uncertainty and fear. But gender-inclusive schools and classrooms welcoming all children and teens are within any school community’s reach. Join us as we expand our understanding of gender identity and talk about how to teach our children about the gender identity spectrum. Joel Baum, M.S., is the Director of Education and Training for Gender Spectrum. He has been featured on *All Things Considered*, in *The New York Times* and *Newsweek*, and in various other publications and media.

If you think these issues don't affect you or your children, think again.

For information, please contact Vicki Larson at 845.356.2514 x311 or vlarson@gmws.org.