

## SciTech Educational Equity Plan

### **Educational Equity**

We believe Educational Equity is defined by ensuring that all students, regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, language, religion, family background, or family income are provided the resources they need in order to be successful. Educational equity is grounded in social justice, the belief that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, and high quality teaching and curricula that allow them to feel safe, seen, heard and valued while providing them with the skills they need to overcome inequity. Educational equity requires both instructional and policy developing tasks that embrace the values of equity.

### **Our Commitment to Educational Equity**

- We are committed to consistent engagement in equity-centered professional learning that enhances the teaching and learning conditions in our school and our ability to continuously improve instruction.
- We are committed to providing a socially just learning environment where all staff are committed to fostering equity, providing instruction that is culturally responsive and elevating and celebrating student voices.
- We are committed to policy advocacy for students and families impacted by racism.
- We will take a research-based approach for teaching and learning that aligns to both the needs of our most underserved students and to the skills all students will need in their future careers.
- We will value and prioritize inclusive communication and engagement by actively working to include individuals whose perspectives have not traditionally been heard in education decision-making.
- We are committed to providing social and emotional supports to all students and staff by addressing the holistic needs of every child, including those related to behaviors, emotions, and social interactions.
- We will ensure that every student has access to rigorous learning experiences that meet them where they are and challenge them to grow and excel. All students will be held to high expectations.

### **What is Culturally Responsive Education?**

The goal of culturally responsive education is to create circumstances in which the students will find the learning opportunity to be responsive and meaningful. The purpose of culturally responsive education is to create fair and meaningful learning opportunities for all students.

### **What is Culturally Responsive Instruction?**

Culturally responsive instruction is characterized by a high level of cognitive engagement, student voice is empowered and opportunities exist for students to leverage their backgrounds and identities in the interest of academic achievement. Additionally, the instructional design of the lesson builds community, instructional activities are rigorous and allow students to extend their understandings in complex ways for deeper learning.