

Teaching IS Intellectual

PURSUIT OF EQUITY

June 2022

We are so excited to welcome all of you to our new monthly newsletter! Our hope is that you will see us pop up in your inbox each month and be inspired to learn, read, and join us in our pursuit of equity in education!

~Jen & Mira



Learn with us

Ableism is discrimination in favor of non-disabled people, the view that disabled people are inferior, less than. At its heart, ableism is rooted in the assumption that disabled people are in need of "fixing." [Read more here.](#)

Much of the implementation of special education in our schools is driven by this assumption, that students with disabilities need to receive interventions that will, if implemented correctly and with fidelity, mask the impact of their disability(ies). The metric of successful intervention, then, is the student will more closely approximate to what we perceive as "normal" in school contexts. You can read some

research about masking for autistic students [here](#) and specifically about autism and ableism [here](#).

Researchers in special education specifically tend to measure effective interventions by external metrics, such as compliance. We strive to provide access to disabled people telling their own stories about what success looks like, what inclusion means, and how ableism impacts their lives.

In June, we encourage you to

- Watch [This Is Not About Me](#), a film about [Jordyn Zimmerman](#). [Available on Apple, too.](#)
- [Read about euphemisms](#) and how our language can convey implicit ableism.

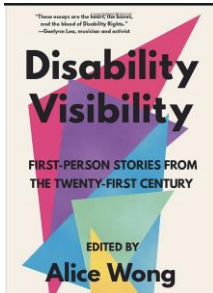
Read with us

We partnered with friends at Communication First and The Nora Project to develop a K-12 Easy Read document titled "What Are School Shootings, How Do They Make Us Feel, and What Can We Do About Them? [You can access it here.](#)

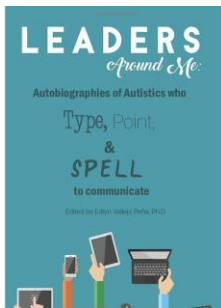
Another way ableism presents in schools is by consistently overlooking disabled students are so often left out of conversations of school safety, of safety plans, and of restoring a sense of safety after tragedy. This resource will support this conversations to ensure that we are including all members of our school community in our safety and healing.

Book Recommendations for June

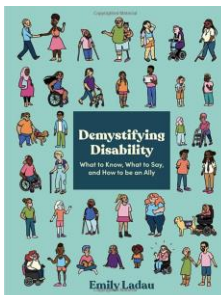
Disability Visibility: First Person Stories From The Twenty-First Century. Edited by Alice Wong



Leaders Around Me: Autobiographies of Autistics who Type, Point, & Spell to Communicate. Edited by Edlyn Vallejo Peña



Demystifying Disability: What to Know, What to Say, and How to be an Ally by Emily Ladau



Connect with us

- We will be at the March For Our Lives March in Washington, DC on June 11. [Join Us!](#)

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We can be found on IG and Fb @teachingisintellectual

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