

February 5, 2021

# DAY 5

Levels of Racism



Known for its diverse school community,
Rush-Henrietta is becoming even more reflective of the world.
Eight years ago,
65 percent of our
Royal Comets were white students.
Today, that number is 56 percent. Every day, our students get a glimpse of what it looks like to be a global citizen.



When thinking about racism, many people envision it in one dimension – the individual person who makes assumptions about people of color.

This learned prejudice is often shaped by the beliefs, biases, and personal experiences encountered by individuals throughout their lives.

We also may think of racism as overt acts of hatred, including intimidation, the burning of Black churches, and other outrageous acts outlined in books such as the 1960 novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird," and movies such as the 1989 release, "Mississippi Burning."

Most people can recognize these types of actions and call them out for the despicable behavior that it is.

But that isn't enough.

This internalized racism is reinforced by other, larger levels of systemic racism that exist throughout our society in policies and organizations.

Understanding these levels of racism is key to combating them and our ability to make real change.

## **Resources for Learning**

Please choose at least one of these options for today's journey.

**Option 1:** Read more about the <u>Four Levels of Racism</u> **Option 2:** Watch <u>Systemic Racism Explained</u> (4:23)

Option 3: Watch Cultural Competence Continuum (3:02)





### Consider these ways to reflect, grow and take action:

Questions to Consider for Self-Reflection:

- Were the definitions offered of the levels of racism consistent with what you understood them to mean? How did they differ? What haven't you previously considered?
- How do you see internalized racism impacting you personally?

#### Cultural Competence Activities for Reflection and Discussion:

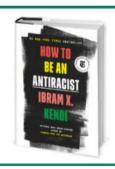
- Review the <u>Cultural Competence Continuum Visual</u>.
- Review the <u>Cultural Competence Continuum chart</u> for examples of statements that fall under each level, and reflect on when you may have witnessed similar sentiments.
- Complete this <u>Cultural Competence Continuum</u> lesson.

Office of Professional Learning Google Site Offering:

Social Justice Standards | Understanding Justice (1 hr CTLE)

# **Additional Resources**

This New York Times #1 bestseller provides a practical guide to moving beyond awareness of racism to actively contributing to a more equitable society.



To view this content online, click here.

To view past days of the R-H Equity Journey, click here.