

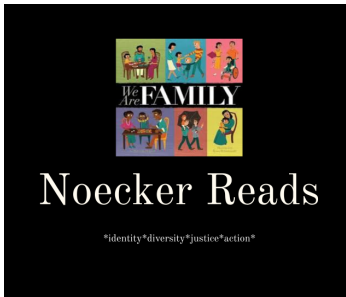


LESTER C. NOECKER SCHOOL

ROSELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Whenever people listen to one another humbly and openly, their shared values and aspirations become all the more apparent. Diversity is no longer seen as a threat, but as a source of enrichment." - Pope Francis

Dear Noecker Community,



Our teachers and students are enjoying our **Trimester 1: Identity** discussions and activities which began this week! Inclusivity activities occur during students' scheduled Health & Wellness periods.

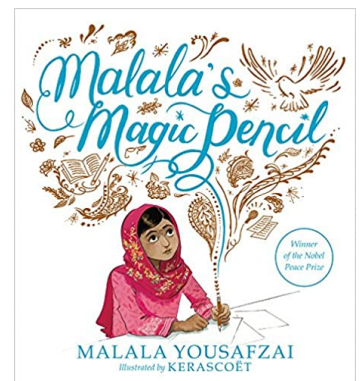
As previously stated, texts remain fluid and our **Trimester 1 Noecker Reads** texts were slightly revised as we completed our teaching slides. You can view all three Trimester 1 books (electronically), teaching slides, and activity hand-outs [HERE](#).

Trimester 1: Identity texts are:

- **Grades K-1 *Alma*** written/ illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal [A Caldecott Honor Book](#)
- **Grades 2-4 *Where Are You From?*** written by Yamile Saied Mendez/ illustrated by Jamie Kim
- **Grades 5-6 *Islandborn*** written by Junot Diaz/ illustrated by Leo Espinosa [A Pura Belpre Honor Book](#)

Our [Inclusivity Curriculum](#) and Noecker Reads units were and are designed by our Noecker School staff as teaching documents, guides to discussion, and to assist in your understanding of our care in developing the 2021-2022 [district goal](#) of Inclusivity. All of the information can be found on our [website](#) and via prior [weekly notifications](#). As we look ahead to **Trimester 2: Diversity** and **Trimester 3: Justice and Action**, we continue to reflect on our goals, the standards, and the development of our units with proposed texts.

As you may be aware, we have received mixed feedback on one text (*Something Happened in Our Town*) proposed for Trimester 3. While we maintain complete confidence in the book selection and the skills of our incredible educators to highlight the teaching points related to the Justice and Action Standards, our purpose, with sharing all aspects of the initiative, is to grow the community's confidence in our approach to the topics of inclusivity. As such, the Inclusivity Committee has selected an alternate text for **Trimester 3: Justice and Action** for Grades 3-4: [Malala's Magic Pencil](#) by Malala Yousafzai/illustrated by Kerascoët ([video](#)).



"Inclusion is opening our minds to new possibilities, making room for different perspectives and enriching the experience for everyone along the way." - Lisa Friedman