

## **Listening Circles for DDHS Students!**

*A school is nothing without its students. We are committed to doing better to address your challenges and concerns as young people in the world, our city, and our school community. As a result, we are offering students at DDHS to participate in Listening Circles.*

**Here are some questions you might have?:**

**What are Listening Circles?:** There will be groups of approximately 15 students to discuss current issues. There will be trained facilitators with community partners and one staff member in each Circle to assist in making sure the groups are constructive and feel safe for all members.

**When will they be held?:** Listening Circles will be held on Fridays, beginning on September 25th and will start anytime between 12pm and 2pm. They will last approximately an hour.

**What will the topics be?:** We are offering Listening Circles about Race, Sexual Assault/Harassment, and Anxiety and Covid.

**Who are the community partners who will be facilitating the groups?:**

**Race Discussions:** REAP, NAYA, SEI and Bernard Rahming (The Literacy Lab)

**Anxiety Listening Circle:** Therapists--Kathrine Senders, Boonie Berg

**Sexual Assault Listening Circle:** Rebuilding Hope Center for Sexual Assault

**If I sign up, do I have to commit the whole year?:** Nope, this is voluntary for students who want to have an opportunity to connect with other students and/or staff about issues they care about. We do ask that you try to hang in there for our first cycle, which is 8 weeks.

**I've been in groups like this before and it turns into adults just talking at us. How can I be sure this will be different?:** The intent of the group is to be "student guided" which means that the facilitator will not be coming with any set curriculum that they need to "teach." This should not feel like a classroom but much more like a normal discussion among friends/colleagues. We are wanting the adults in the room to act as guides.

**How do I sign up?:** Your school counselor will be sending out a Google Form for you to fill out if you are interested in signing up. If the Listening Circles fill up, don't worry! We will be trying to offer more opportunities like this in the future! Also, here is the link to sign up!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1G3Y4QgSCAY-8Idr60gzfPEtNtZ7zR08Ns60O3O4fwCQ/edit>