

Human Rights Academy Meeting notes July 3, 2020

Present: Trish Oshman, Wendy Bierwirth and Mwalim Peters

- 1) Set a common theme for the groups to address and build 'civic engagement' projects/activities around. We can also offer civic engagement activities such as poetry/open mics, summits, talent shows, etc.
- 2) Outreach to the schools and advisors about the coming year. For students at schools with no group and homeschoolers we can offer an at large group, facilitated by one of us as the advisor.
- 3) Have a virtual "Town Meeting" in October, bringing together all the schools. Set out a charge to all groups to have regular weekly or bi-weekly meetings (in person or by ZOOM) and we could have monthly check-ins.
- 4) December, we bring everybody together for a virtual Academy session for each group to make presentations, keynote speakers, etc.
- 5) Have a Town Meeting in January to set the agenda for that semester and continue with group activities.
- 6) Have our spring meeting in May (hopefully in person...)

Theme suggestions: With the passing of John Lewis and Bill Clinton's remarkably racist and unfortunate comments at his funeral about Kwame Toure, I would suggest that we have the students do projects around looking at the two ends of the Civil Rights Movement that had identical goals and how and why White Fragility can be a divisive element in social progress. Also, what is the difference between Black Lives Matter, the movement/slogan and Black Lives Matter, the organization.

Through this method we can have greater interaction as well as offer webinar presentations during the year and students can earn certificates for participating and contributing to these activities.