CONFERENCES FOR SCHOOLS

We offer two conference models that can be hosted at school or on Zoom: the Multi-School Conference and the Intra-School Conference. Each has the goal of creating a stronger community and generating Actionable Ideas. When you sign on with Pollyanna, you are assigned a Project Manager who will work with you and your school, and walks your team through all aspects of planning and hosting a conference. The Project Manager will supply all information, documents, keynote recommendations, facilitation training and advice to help plan a successful day.

MULTI-SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Pollyanna’s original conference emphasizes our motto “Every Voice Matters” by welcoming all constituent groups at schools in the conference conversation: administrators, alumni, diversity, equity and inclusion practitioners, faculty, heads of schools, parents, students, trustees. Each school sends a POD that includes 15 people representing all constituent groups. The Multi-School Conference model is available to schools around the United States and in Canada.

The school that hosts this conference in a designated geographic region welcomes peer schools in that region to discuss challenges and effective practices around a specific diversity, equity and inclusion topic, and generate Actionable Ideas to create movement at each of the attending schools. Some of the Actionable Ideas generated at past conferences have included: curricular audit, uniform assessment, development of hiring guidelines, offering affinity groups, etc.
Topics for Multi-School Conference

- Race • Privilege • Community Building
- Shaping & Sustaining Safe Schools for LGBTQ+ Community
- Socioeconomics
- Intersectionality
- Cultivating Racial Awareness and White Engagement
- Raising Empathy & Taking Action
- Implicit Bias
- Create a new topic for your school

Multi-School Conference Day Schedule

8:15AM  Light breakfast and registration
9:00AM  HoS and DEI Director welcome
9:20AM  Keynote
10:30AM Morning break-out discussion by constituent group
12:30PM Lunch
1:30PM  Student presentation/panel with students from attending schools
2:30PM  Afternoon break-out discussion of Actionable Ideas by School POD
4:00PM  Reception or all group reflection

INTRA-SCHOOL CONFERENCE MODEL

Pollyanna designed the Intra-Conference as an institutional capacity-building opportunity for schools that want to deepen their knowledge, enhance practices and improve skills in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion. The very nature of the Intra-Conference brings a school together and establishes and strengthens community connections. The Intra-Conference informs the community and provides a platform for sharing personal experiences, expressing opinions and perspectives, and generating ideas and solutions for growth. Constituent groups included in this model are: alumni, alumni parents, faculty/admin/staff, students and parents.

Topics for Intra-School Conference

- Building an Inclusive School
- Strategic Planning
- Mission or Vision Statement Writing
- Create a new topic for your school

Intra-School Conference Day Schedule

8:15AM  Light breakfast and registration
9:00AM  HoS and DEI Director welcome
9:20AM  Keynote
10:30AM Morning break-out discussion by constituent group
12:30PM Lunch
1:00PM  Panel discussion with two people representing each constituency
2:00PM  Break-out discussion of Actionable Ideas in either small or large group
3:30PM  Reflection

For more information, please email info@pollyannainc.org.