

Never Again Is Now Teachers Conference

November 2, 2021

Tentative Agenda

1) Theme:

L'dor v'dor

Passing the Lessons of the Holocaust

From Generation to Generation

2) Essential Questions*:

- a) What made you decide to attend this conference?
- b) How and why did the Holocaust happen?
- c) Why do we study the Holocaust?
- d) What factors shaped America's response to the Holocaust?
- e) How did America's response to the Holocaust change over time?
- f) What did Americans know about the Holocaust as it was occurring?
- g) What secures democracy and what makes it fragile?
- h) What motivates people to stand up for those in need; what inhibits people's empathy and actions in response to cries for help?
- i) How does group hatred develop and what can it lead to?
- j) How do societies remember the past and how do such memories affect choices?
- k) What lessons from the Holocaust can students apply to their lives today?
- l)
- m) TBD
- n) TBD
- o) What Lessons does the Holocaust hold for us (our students) today?

*These questions will be used to generate and guide discussion in the unlikely event the sessions themselves fail to do so.

3) Itinerary:

8:00 - 8:45 AM Plenary Session Opening Video "What Do You Know About the Holocaust?" Paula and David 3 G NY Discussion

Bringing Holocaust lessons to life: Descendants of Survivors Share Memory, Legacy, and Responsibility

3GNY is an educational organization that brings together "3G"s - third-generation descendants of Holocaust survivors - to educate diverse communities about the perils of intolerance. As a living link to survivors, 3Gs build personal connections with students to the stories and lessons of the Holocaust, while connecting historical events to contemporary issues of intolerance and persecution. Dave Reckess, Executive Director

of 3GNY, along with his mother, Paula Reckess, will share about the transmission of their family legacy through the generations, and the lasting impact 3G stories have on today's students.

9:00 - 9:45 AM Session One: Civic Engagement & the Holocaust - Jeff Urbin

This session explores how the systematic breakdown and elimination of civic norms in areas controlled by the Nazis in the 1930s and 40s led to the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and murder of roughly six million European Jews. Participants will learn how prejudice, intolerance, scapegoating, hate speech and fear were used then, and are being employed again today to persecute and intimidate.

10:00 - 10:45 AM Session Two: Precursors: Ideologies Leading to the Holocaust - Dr. Abby Gondak

(Waiting on Info from Abby)

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Working Lunch Period

- Discussion led by Laura about using resources in the classroom

NOTE: Laura, could you write up a little blurb about what you will be talking about and going over?

- Virtual tours of Library/Museum - Possible Document Display

- Screening of film *Nuremberg*

- Virtual chat time with the presenters

1:00 - 1:45 PM Session Three: Presentation by Echoes and Reflections

How do we create impactful and thoughtful learning of the Holocaust with students? In this session, participants explore and gain access to a range of classroom content and consider instructional enhancements to support students' study and reflection of the history of the Holocaust and its ongoing meaning in the world today. Educators enhance their own knowledge about the Holocaust, including the history of antisemitism, and build confidence and capacity to teach this complex subject.

2:00 - 2:45 PM Session Four: Presentation by the US Holocaust Museum

What are factors that led to the Holocaust, what are some enduring questions and themes today that resonate from the 1930s and 1940s? How does learning about the Holocaust provide a means to build on historical and critical thinking skills? This session

provides an overview of resources from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, including lesson plans and primary and secondary sources of information to analyze and contextualize this history.

2:45 - 3:00 PM Wellness Check and Goodbyes

4) Potential Handouts and Swag

- Conference Agenda
- Resource List(s)
- Speakers's Bios
- Attendance Certificate
- Suggestions for resources to add to the list Steven has put together
- Suggestions / Reaction Sheets

5) Other Items:

- Online searchable resource list
- Tape an Intro Section "Tell me what you know about the Holocaust"
- Record the opening session and possibly bits of the various sessions to compile for an online piece later?