My Name, My Identity Initiative

The My Name, My Identity initiative is a partnership between the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) and the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE). It is intended to help create a culture of respect and inclusiveness in school communities across the nation by asking students, educators, parents, and community members to take the pledge to pronounce student names correctly and to honor their identities.

The impact of this affirming practice has been felt worldwide, and has positively contributed to realizing a sense of community, growth, and learning both inside and outside the classroom.

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Welcome Back!
A New School Year

A great way to welcome back students to the new academic year is creating a welcoming school that builds on positive relationships, a sense of belonging, a culture of respect, and values of diversity.

The SCCOE created the My Name, My Identity: Creating Community Challenge with the intent to promote and celebrate equitable and innovative practices. Santa Clara County schools and classrooms that submit artifacts responding to the three themes: Welcoming School, Building Community, and Celebrating Diversity by January 31 will be recognized at the Santa Clara County Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month Showcase in April. Schools and districts that are outside of Santa Clara County are also welcome to submit artifacts. Selected artifacts will be posted on the My Name, My Identity website.

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My Name, My Identity:
Creating Community Challenge

Building an Inclusive and Respectful School Community

What: Build an inclusive and respectful school community

Why: Create a welcoming school that builds on positive relationships, a sense of belonging, a culture of respect, and values of diversity

How: Participate in the Community Challenge by completing one project for each of these three themes: Welcoming School, Building Community, and Celebrating Diversity using the resources on this slide deck

Be Recognized

The My Name, My Identity Initiative is an illustrative example of the English Learner Roadmap Principle One: Assets-Based and Needs Oriented Schools.

- Schools and classes in Santa Clara County submitting one artifact from each of the three themes by January 31 will be recognized at the Santa Clara County Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month Showcase in April.

- Artifacts can include a video (limit to two minutes), a drawing, a collage, a poster, an essay, or a podcast (limit to two minutes).

- Rubric for each theme can be used to guide the creation and completion of each project.

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My Name, My Identity:
Creating Community Challenge Themes

1. Welcoming School

Relationship & Engagement

Helping everyone feel welcomed by pronouncing others' names correctly

Creating a safe and welcoming school environment

2. Building Community

Belonging, Inclusion & Respect

Helping everyone feel seen, heard, and that they belong in school

Building a culture of respect and inclusiveness

3. Celebrating Diversity

Diversity & Innovation

Helping everyone feel proud of who he/she/they are

Affirming and celebrating diversity creatively

Welcoming School
Relationship & Engagement

Choice Board of Project Ideas
Complete at least one project as a school or class

Encourage students to create a physical or virtual space in their classroom or school that showcases ALL community members' names & identities. Share student samples.	**Choose Your Own Adventure** Try a new or existing project that you are excited about in your school or classroom. Share an artifact from your project.	Create and swap name story stickers. Share student samples.
Create a pledge that helps students feel they belong and are respected. Share student samples.	Invite students to share their name stories as "Name of the Day" during morning announcements. Share student written or recorded samples.	Design a paper or digital name badge that students will present to peers or family. Share student samples.

Learning Resources

My Name, My Identity: Creating an Inclusive and Respectful School Community Educator Toolkit

Family Interview Activity

Digital Name Badge Project

Resources for Gender and LGTBQ+ Inclusive Schools

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Building Community

Belonging, Inclusion & Respect

Choice Board of Project Ideas
Complete at least one project as a school or class

Share your name story with a classmate or peer so that they know your name and/or identity story and is able to share it with others. Share an artifact of the project.	Investigate the rich history in your community using the Community Identity Map and build a map highlighting your findings. Or, visit places in your neighborhood and share what students discovered.	Create a Community/Class Agreement to cultivate respect and build community. Share your agreement.
Choose Your Own Adventure Try a new or existing projects that you are excited about in your school or classroom. Share an artifact from your project.	Set up an opportunity for students to meet, mingle and share their names and name stories with new friends during lunch or breaks. Have students wear a name tag. Share an artifact.	Create a school-wide My Name, My Identity "Building Community" Art Contest. Share student samples.

Learning Resources

Beyond the Bake Sale Parent Engagement Resources

Edutopia - Building Community in the Classroom

Facing History and Ourselves - Back to School: Building Community for Connection and Learning

Edutopia: Every Student Matters

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Celebrating Diversity
Diversity & Innovation

Driving Question
What makes you and your family feel your differences are valued and celebrated?

Choice Board of Project Ideas
Complete at least one project as a school or class

Create a collage that shows the strengths in your school, classroom, or community. Share your collage.	Create a paper chain/web that celebrates identity as we are all diverse and linked. Students design a personalized link to share their identity (how they see themselves) with their classroom/school.	**Choose Your Own Adventure** Try a new or existing project that you are excited about in your school or classroom. Share an artifact from your project.
Share an artifact that highlights diverse, influential individuals in a selected content area Ex: Scientist Spotlight, Modern Mathematicians, or Authors from Around the World.	Host a night, week, or month of community celebrations with student and family events at various times of the day and share an artifact.	Expand upon established celebrations, days and months, to highlight diversity in the community that dismantle stereotypes. Share an artifact.

Learning Resources

Monthly Celebrations

Books Featuring Diversity

Book List on Diversity & Inclusion, K-5

Teaching Strategies | Facing History and Ourselves

Multicultural Educator vs. Anti-Racism Facilitator

Celebrations can be year-round.

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Submit Your Artifacts
by January 31

- Prior to submitting your student/group/class/school artifact(s), please review and complete the [Single Point Rubric](#) for each submission.

- Artifact and rubric for each theme should be submitted on a separate [Submission Form](#).

Santa Clara County Office of Education

Submissions for the
My Name, My Identity Student Art Contest

"Theme - TBD"

For more information about the annual art contest, please visit the
[My Name, My Identity Student Art Contest webpage](#).

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