

Awareness: Teachers as Ethnographers

Video Transcript

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Every teacher needs to be an ethnographer of some sort. You know, not formally trained maybe, but every teacher needs to figure out the community that [they] serve. Because when you figure out the community that you serve, you also figure out the biography of your students.

I believe in teacher[s] not only meeting parents at the school's door, but actually going into the community, the most unknown places—like the restaurant, the barbershop, the playground in the community, the movies—in order to try to find out what [life is] like for [their] students.

Especially for new immigrants, I think that [it] gives us a lot of information about what our students come home to. And then, it . . . shape[s] the way that we feel about the priorities of learning in our classroom for our students.



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