



EQUITY 101

Why Equity Now?

A brief overview of EQUITY and its role in our EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

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Presenter**

Presentation Outline:

EQUITY DEFINED

EQUITY vs EQUALITY

EQUITY in EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

EQUITY for THE NEW NORMAL

EQUITY is JUSTICE

EQUITY DEFINED:

Some say: *Equity is giving everyone what they need to be successful. Some can use this term to refer to justice*

Websters Dictionary Says: *“Equity is JUSTICE according to natural law or right; freedom from bias or favoritism.”*

Engage NY definition: *“means the learning needs of every student are supported in an environment where all students are valued; respected; and experience academic success without regard to differences in age, gender, socio-economic status, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, native language, national origin, or immigration status.”*

(ESSA PLAN)

EQUITY *vs.* EQUALITY

Equity: Giving everyone what they need to be successful; generally, when people use this word they tend to talk about **JUSTICE**.

Equality: Treating everyone the same; when people use this word they tend to talk about **FAIRNESS**.

EQUITY VERSUS EQUALITY

Equity is the quality of being fair and impartial

Involves treating each individual according to his or her needs

Considers individual needs of people

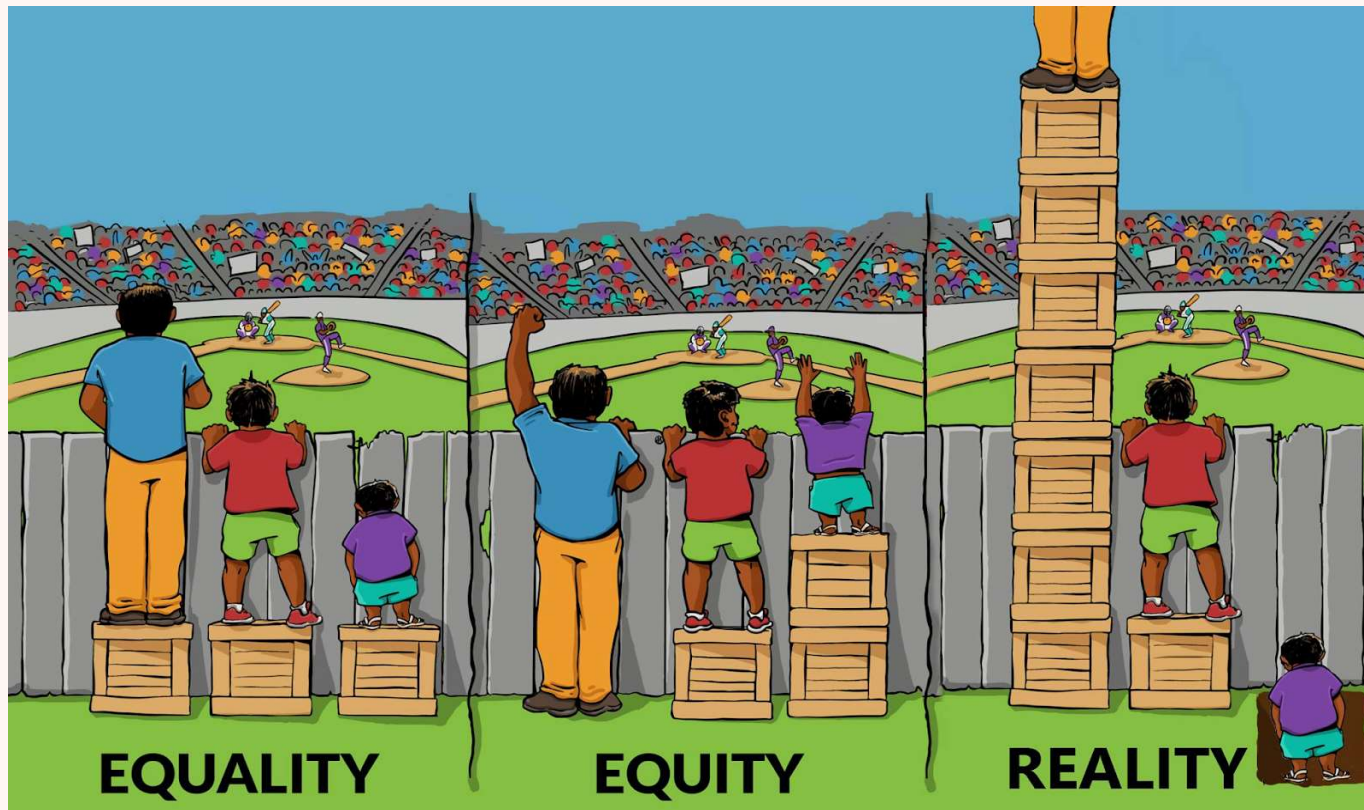
[Pediaa.com](https://www.pediaa.com)

Equality is the state or quality of being equal

Involves treating every individual in the same manner, irrespective of their differences

Does not consider needs and requirements of people

EQUITY *vs.* EQUALITY



EQUITY AND EQUALITY AS IT IS VIEWED

This is not NEW (History)

In the 60s and 70s – **EQUITY** was grounded in the concept of **EFFICACY** and **EFFICIENCY**;

Finally in the 90s and currently, **EQUITY** is an **APPROACH** by which *decisions* about educating our children is to be made. Benadusi (2006)

the 80s and 90s

the 60s and 70s

the 90s and currently

In the 80s and 90s - **EQUITY** was thought about in the terms of **QUALITY** of Education

This is not NEW (History) *cont'd*

- 2013- The Obama Administration commissioned the study, “FOR EACH AND EVERY CHILD – *A strategy for EQUITY and EXCELLENCE*”

Key points of the study:

- ✓ *Financial Accountability (Where’s the money and how is it being spent?)*
- ✓ *Teaching, Leading and Learning Opportunities (Where did they go?)*
- ✓ *Access to high quality early childhood education (Starting with our children early)*
- ✓ *Meeting the needs of students in disadvantage communities. (We deserve the best!)*

EQUITY FOR THE NEW NORMAL

- We must educate ourselves around the practices of our various schools ensuring EQUITY FOR ALL!

This means asking the following questions:

- ✓ Is our EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OPEN and SUPPORTIVE OF ALL OUR CHILDREN?
- ✓ Is our EDUCATION SYSTEM differentiated so that it considers the individual needs of EVERY CHILD?
- ✓ Does our school environments ADAPT to the need of various target groups?
- ✓ Has our EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM ADAPTED to the CHANGING NEEDS of INDIVIDUAL PERSONS and the SOCIETY as a WHOLE?

Equity in education is a global issue influenced by many factors.

Organization for Economic Co-operations and Development

Ten Steps to Equity in Education

Design

- limit early tracking and streaming and postpone academic selection
- manage school choice so as to contain the risks to equity
- in upper secondary education, provide attractive alternatives, remove dead ends and prevent dropouts
- offer second chances to gain from education

Practices

- identify and provide systematic help to those who fall behind at school and reduce year retention
- strengthen the links between school and home to help disadvantaged parents help their children to learn
- respond to diversity and provide for the successful inclusion of migrants and minorities within mainstream education

Resourcing

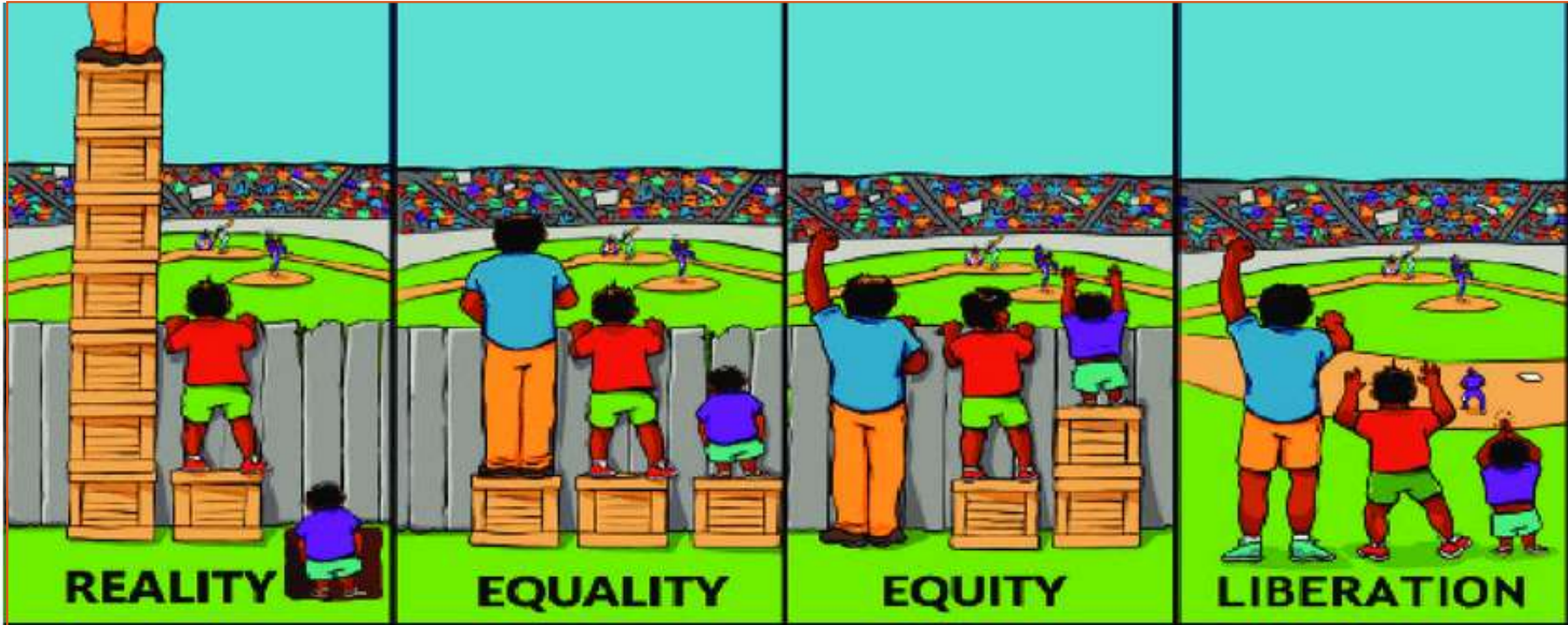
- provide strong education for all, giving priorities to early childhood provision and basic schooling
- direct resources to students with the greatest need
- set concrete targets for more equity, particularly related to low school attainment and dropouts

“Education plays a key role in determining how you spend your adult life - a higher level of education means higher earnings, better health, and a longer life.”

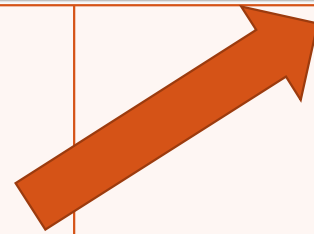
EQUITY FOR THE NEW NORMAL

Finally....

Equity in education requires putting ***systems in place*** to ensure that all our children have chances for success. It requires understanding the unique challenges and barriers faced by individual students or by populations of students and providing additional support to help them overcome those barriers. While this in itself may not ensure equal outcomes, we all should strive to ensure that every child has every opportunity for success.



EQUITY is JUSTICE



In Conclusion

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it *treats its children.*" Nelson Mandela