



WE ARE MANY UNITED

October 2025 Addition:

**Homecoming, The Power of Relationship
Mapping & FAHM, IAHM,
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY**

Homecoming With Heart

Homecoming is one of the most exciting times of the school year, filled with pep rallies, games, dances, and dress-up days. But it's also a chance to reflect on how we can make these traditions welcoming for all students. Inclusive homecoming planning ensures that every student feels a sense of belonging, whether they're on the court, in the stands, performing at halftime, or just showing up to celebrate school spirit.

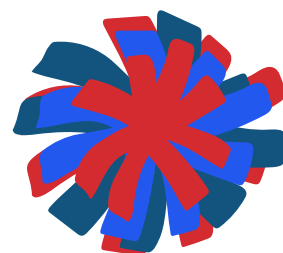
Schools can take small but powerful steps:

- Rethink homecoming royalty to recognize different kinds of leadership.
- Feature diverse groups in pep rallies, from music and drama to academic clubs.
- Offer multilingual promotion for events so families and students of all backgrounds feel included.
- Choose spirit week themes that are fun and accessible for everyone.

✨ Resources to Explore:

[Edutopia: Building Belonging Through Schoolwide Events](#)

[Learning for Justice: Tools to Create an Inclusive School Environment](#)



Relationship Mapping: Building Stronger Connections With Students

Relationship mapping is a simple but powerful practice where educators take time to identify which students have strong connections with adults in the school, and which students may need more intentional relationship-building. By mapping these connections, schools can ensure that every student has at least one trusted adult who knows them, sees them, and supports them.

- **We're offering a quick lunchtime PD on Relationship Mapping on Tuesday, October 28, from 12:00–12:30.**
- **If your school would like to participate, simply email me back and I'll send you a calendar invite along with the Zoom link!**

📖 Learn more about Relationship Mapping:

- [Creating Purposeful Relationships with Students \(Edutopia\)](#)
- [Making Caring Common – Harvard Graduate School of Education](#)

October Heritage Month Recognitions



Filipino American History Month

October is recognized as Filipino American History Month, a time to honor the rich history, culture, and contributions of Filipino Americans across the United States. This is a wonderful opportunity for schools to highlight Filipino voices, celebrate heritage, and introduce students to stories that may not be in the standard curriculum. Explore ideas for classroom activities, historical context, and cultural celebrations with this resource: [10 Ways to Celebrate Filipino American History Month.](#)

Italian American Heritage Month

October is also Italian American Heritage Month, a time to reflect on the cultural identity, history, and contributions of Italian Americans. This celebration invites students and educators to explore themes of immigration, tradition, and community, while honoring the lasting impact of Italian American voices. For reflections, literature, and cultural resources, visit:

<https://www.nypl.org/spotlight/italian-american-heritage-month>

ITALIAN
AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH



Indigenous Peoples' Day

Observed on the second Monday in October, Indigenous Peoples' Day is a time to honor Native peoples, their histories, and their living cultures. This day offers schools an opportunity to move beyond myths, deepen understanding of Indigenous contributions, and center authentic voices in the classroom. Teachers can find short videos, lesson ideas, and engaging activities here: [How To Celebrate and Honor Indigenous Peoples' Day.](#)



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