

Third-Order Barriers: Questions for Consideration

What current events or news stories have you heard recently that relate to school policies, safety measures, or ritual and legacy and resemble the hypothetical scenarios on page 18?

In your own community, have you heard people say: “It’s the [school, district, or city] way?” Who usually says it? When does it typically come up? What does it explicitly or implicitly suggest?

What kinds of structures are in place in your own environment that present institutional barriers to advancing equity?

While the COVID-19 pandemic that began in 2020 interrupted many preexisting practices and routines and required third-order change, were modifications made that prioritized equity? Were there any unintended consequences that created additional barriers for marginalized students?