Association of Washington Student Leaders
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AWSL's 'I AM | WE ARE' Program

Thank you for purchasing the I AM | WE ARE program from AWSL. We are honored and thrilled to be a part of your observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Your purchasing of this program grants you a license to use the video and materials for the 2024-2025 school year.

To protect the intellectual property of AWSL and James Layman, we respectfully ask each school to adhere to the terms and conditions of the license.

The video can be downloaded from Vimeo, or you can share the link via Vimeo with your staff and students.

Terms and Conditions:

a) Do not share the video or materials with other schools, groups, or outside agencies.

b) Should you utilize YouTube to broadcast the video, please ensure the video is 'unlisted.'

c) The I AM | WE ARE materials are for educational purposes only. Do not rebroadcast the video on social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.).

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions! We always appreciate hearing any feedback you have and learning how the program was received.

Thank you again for allowing AWSL to join you and your school!

All the best!

James Layman

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I AM | WE ARE
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

The format below creates a 20-30-minute assembly, which features the "I AM | WE ARE" video from AWSL's James Layman, and consideration of items to build around it.

Assembly Breakdown

Welcome and Introduction

- Students or adults set the tone and explain the 'why' and 'what' the assembly or presentation is about.
- Perspective and Stories
- Student(s)/adult(s)/community member(s) share their thoughts, and feelings regarding justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, and MLK. This provides a beautiful opportunity to have voices from the school community included in your assembly. James' speech discusses love, belonging, and creating positive spaces and places for others through our actions – this is a perfect opportunity for students/community members to speak/share to these concepts.
- James Layman's I AM | WE ARE Video
- Conclude the assembly with a reflection on the video, and how to incorporate the lessons from the assembly and video presentation and weave them into the school culture and climate. You can use the discussion questions to drive your conclusion home.

Notes and Final Thoughts

There is no one way to present an MLK Assembly. This implementation guide is merely a suggested pace for a 20 - 30-minute assembly that allows students/school communities to play a role in the assembly's development and execution.

Make sure many people watch the complete presentation before it goes live. Ensuring everything is appropriate for all audiences is key to a successful MLK Day commemoration.

We hope that the I AM | WE ARE presentation serves as a companion piece and allows for rich and meaningful conversations to exist. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your school's Martin Luther King Day assembly.

- The Association of Washington Student Leaders

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I AM | WE ARE
Discussion Questions 2025

Discussion questions can be utilized for individual reflection, pairs, trios, or collective reflection.

Adult Discussion Questions

1. What is one part of the presentation that resonated most with you?

2. Coretta Scott King said, "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." Daily, what compassionate actions can you make to a positive school culture and climate?

3. What parts of today's speech can you weave into your daily life and make it a way of being for yourself?

Classroom Discussion Questions

1. What is one part of the presentation that resonated most with you?

2. How can we show care and compassion to others?

3. Dr. King said: "I urge you today to realize that doors of opportunities are opening now that were not before. And the great challenge facing each of you today is to be ready to enter these doors as they open." What opportunities do you have daily to make a positive impact for yourself? For others, and for your school?

Family Discussion Questions

1. What part of the MLK Presentation resonated with students?

2. How can we invest in the value and worth of others and ourselves?

3. How can we weave the ideals of love, belonging, and collective hope into our daily lives?

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