## <u>Michael Eatman – Culture 7</u>

In alignment with MERSD's <u>Strategic Plan</u> core value of creating, *a just and equitable environment that respects individual differences and the diversity of, our communities, country, and world*, MERSD has begun a relationship with leadership consultant, Michael Eatman from Culture7.co.

**Michael Eatman** is a Certified Diversity Professional, Executive Coach, Advanced EQ, and Mindful Facilitation Practitioner. As an educator celebrating 28 years spanning Prek - 20 learning environments, Michael has created the Leadership Edge, a framework that incorporates Emotional Intelligence (EQ), Cultural Competence, and Conflict Engagement to support educational leaders in leading successful organizations. He believes that successful institutions start with leaders, armed with visions that beckon collaboration. Michael utilizes his EQ expertise to ground his diversity and educational leadership work. With Michael's guidance, governing leaders of institutions have expanded their understanding of how emotional intelligence and diversity awareness impact their organization's ability to fulfill its mission. As an Inclusion Strategist, Michael works with organizations and educational leaders in identifying cultural competence gaps to develop robust systems that promote more inclusive learning and working environments. Michael uses an organizational inclusion change framework to demonstrate the value and presence of diversity at every level of organizational life. Michael is the Founder of Culture Coaching INC. and currently resides in New England with his wife and three children.

Michael is guiding us in the implementation of the five components of Cultural Competence: Awareness, Attitude, Knowledge, Skills, and Practices. The learning experiences endeavor to support educators in becoming more aware, intentional, and purposeful as they engage the school community.

As a result of the training program, participants will have a greater awareness of their own cultural beliefs and behaviors, and those of their colleagues. In addition, they will learn practices that can intercept perspectives that negatively impact community growth. Finally, staff will have a greater appreciation for and commitment to their responsibilities as leaders in shaping an inclusive learning community for students and adults alike.