

Victoria Square Public School

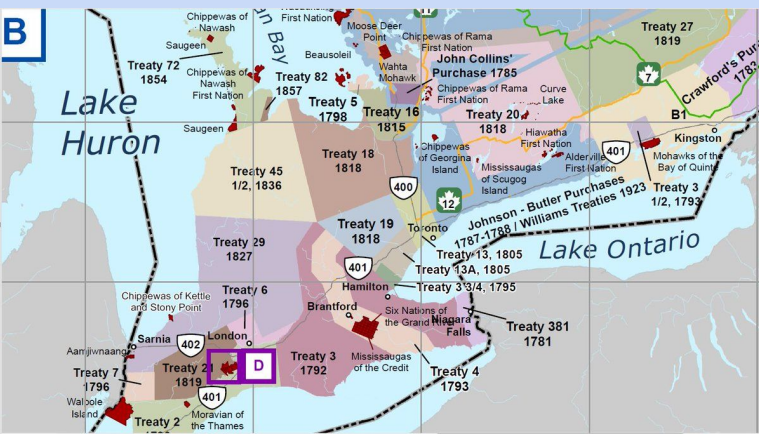
# School Council Meeting #2

December 15th 2021





**NATION  
HURONNE—  
WENDAT**



We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that the York Region District School Board is located on the lands of two treaties. These treaties have been signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island who is our closest neighbour and partner in education.

To honour this agreement we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.

# Agenda

1. Important Dates
2. Professional Learning Update
3. Health & Safety
4. School Council Updates
5. PRO Grant
6. Questions

# Important Dates

- January 14th - PA DAY, JK & FI registration Day
- Feb 4th - PA DAY and the end of Term 1

## Upcoming School Council Meeting Dates:

- Thursday February 10
- Wednesday April 13

# Professional Learning Update



# DIVERSITY IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018

Percentage of books depicting characters from diverse backgrounds based on the 2018 publishing statistics compiled by the Cooperative Children's Book Center, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison:  
[ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp](http://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp)

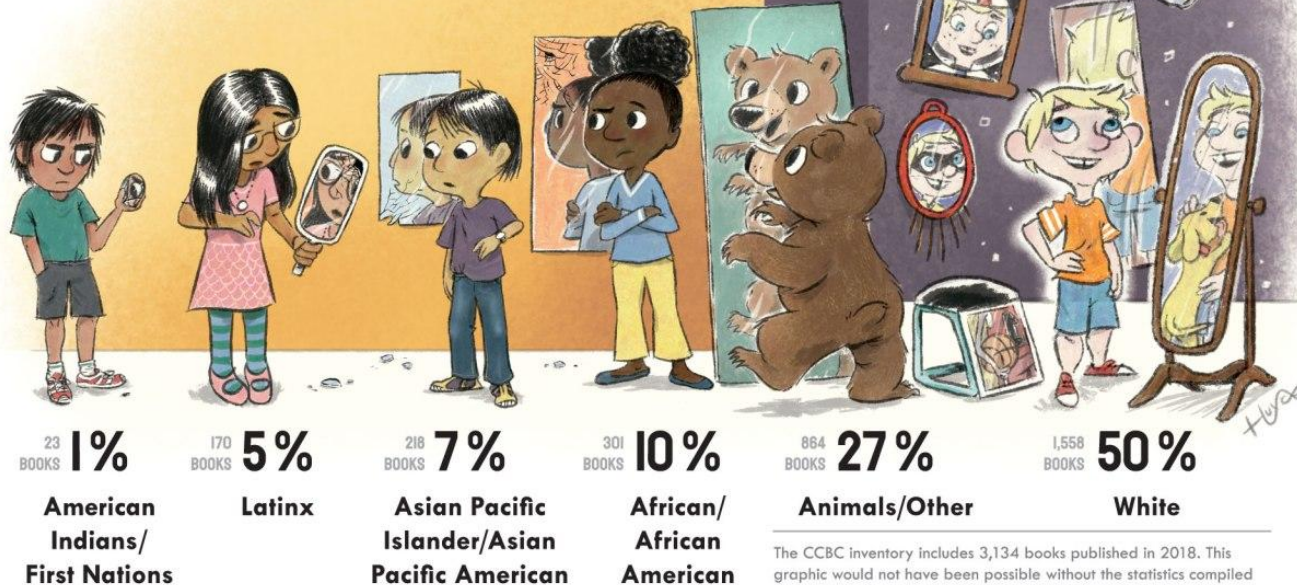


Illustration by David Huyck, in consultation with Sarah Park Dahlen  
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The CCBC inventory includes 3,134 books published in 2018. This graphic would not have been possible without the statistics compiled by the CCBC, and the review and feedback we received from Edith Campbell, Molly Beth Griffin, K. T. Horning, Debbie Reese, Ebony Elizabeth Thomas, and Madeline Tyner. Many thanks.

**What message are we sending to our learners and families?**

Source: Dahlen, 2018

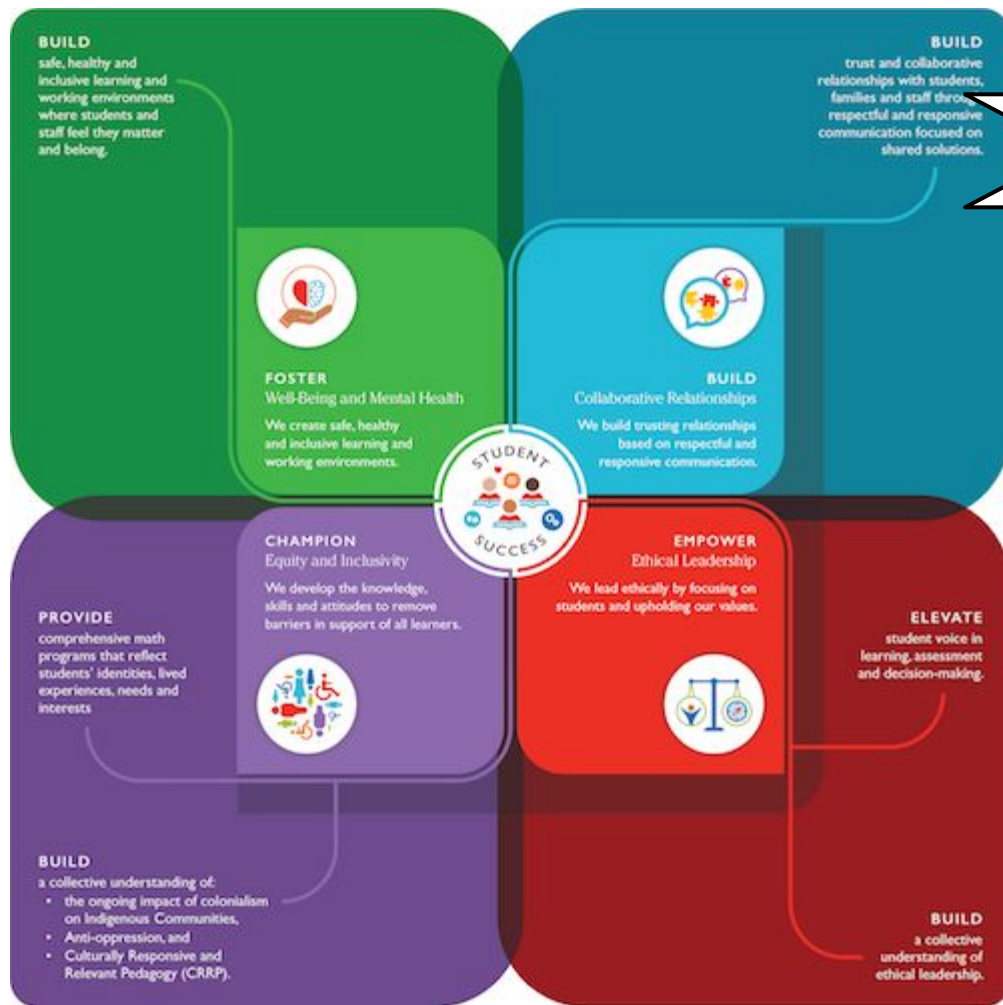
# Why? Mirrors, Windows, Sliding Glass Doors



“[Texts] are sometimes windows, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created and recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a mirror.”

- Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop







# Anti-racist, Anti-Oppressive Mindset

## DISMANTLING ANTI-BLACK RACISM STRATEGY

### GOAL

Achieve racial equity in YRDSB schools for Black students and staff.

### OBJECTIVES

Normalize conversations about anti-Black racism

Operationalize anti-racism

Measure inequities and progress

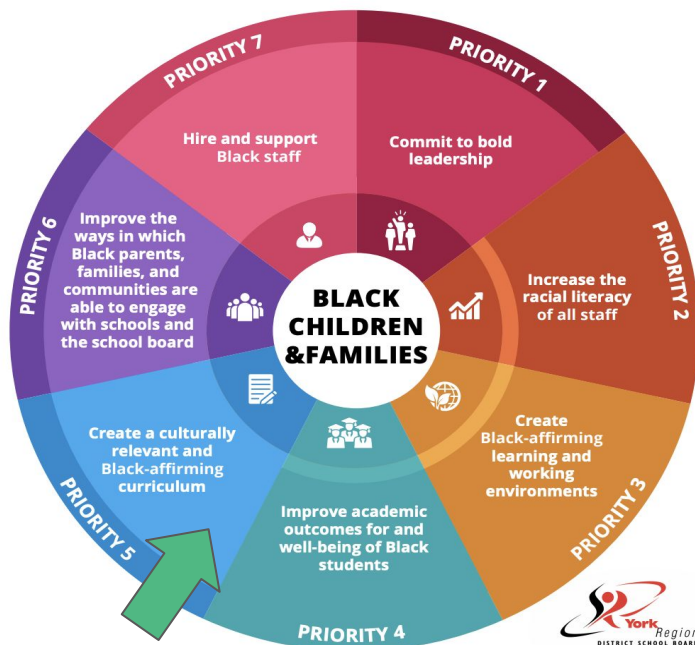
Build organizational capacity

Build capacity and commitment within York Region

Evidence-based decision making

### FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

- 1 Black children experience an educational system that limits their ability to learn.
- 2 Black students have a right to access the same education promised to all Ontario students.
- 3 Black students have a right to learning environments that not only protect them from anti-Black racism and other forms of oppression, but also affirm their identities, foster their strengths, and contribute to their overall well-being.
- 4 While teachers are primarily responsible for student learning in schools, Black parents and other members of the Black community are key partners in their children's education.
- 5 Anti-Black racism is a systemic problem in the education system and throughout society, and harm can be perpetuated by even the most well-meaning and competent staff.
- 6 This strategy will be implemented with urgency, recognizing that generations of Black students in Ontario have experienced anti-Black racism in education.



### FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

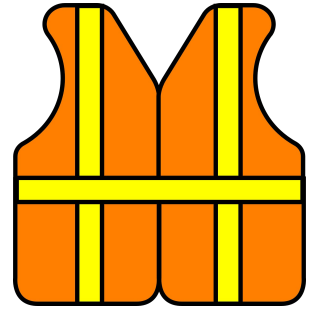
- 7 Accountability for and commitment to the implementation of this strategy must be visible throughout the organization and clearly articulated and demonstrated by senior leaders.
- 8 In order to change outcomes for Black students, the ideology that sustains anti-Black racism needs to change, not simply the behaviours of individuals.
- 9 The Board will act with courage, sustained focus, and endurance to embrace innovation, knowing that traditional school practices may work for some but not all children.
- 10 Understanding that not all initiatives in this strategy may have the desired impact, the Board will adopt a learning mindset when implementing this strategy.
- 11 Success will be measured not by the completion of actions but by the change made to the well-being and academic achievement of Black students and the representation and well-being of Black staff.

# Health & Safety



# LUNCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED

- Paid or volunteer
- Must have vulnerable sector screening completed for YRDSB
- Must be double vaccinated
- Flexible days (all 5 or just a few)
- 11:55-12:55
- Please email Kevin or Amanda if you are interested



# Self Screening

- All students will be expected to complete the screening form similar to the beginning of the year

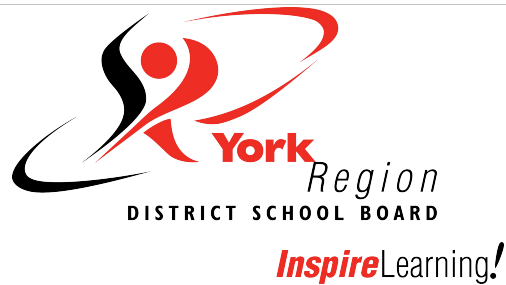
# Covid-19 RAT



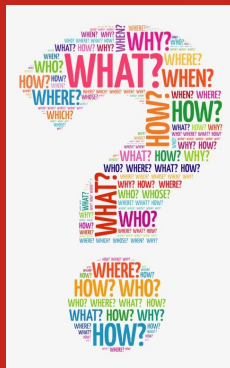
# School Council Updates



# PRO grant







# Questions?