



Memorandum

To: Principals and Vice-Principals

From: Brent Bovaird, Superintendent of School Effectiveness
Norma McDonald, Superintendent of School Effectiveness
Brenda Reil, Principal of Curriculum
Renee Rozon, Principal of Religious and Family Life Education and
Equity and Inclusion
Danica Vidotto, Equity Advisor

Date: May 24th, 2023

Subject: Pride Month

June is recognized as Pride Month throughout Canada, a time to celebrate and honour the Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, plus (2SLGBTQI+) community. Our CDSBEO spiritual theme, *"I Belong Here Together We are God's Good News"*, reminds us that we are called to respect the dignity of all persons and create an inclusive environment for everyone. The Curriculum Department, with support from the RFL & EI Department, work closely with the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Team, and with community partners to share informative, and rich resources and activities to further support our teaching during Pride Month.

As CDSBEO staff and students we are called to be allies. We practice our allyship through our faith which teaches us to love, nurture, and respect all individuals. Being an ally to the 2SLGBTQI+ community means supporting and advocating for the human rights and well-being of individuals. Being an ally is an ongoing process and requires a commitment to continued learning, growth, and action.

This year, each CDSBEO school will be receiving a new *Progress Pride Flag*. We encourage you to display the Progress Pride flag in a highly visible place inside your school. To learn more about the new pride flag, click [here](#).



The *Department of Religion & Family Life Education and Equity & Inclusion* will be hosting a LIVE “We Belong Here” liturgy on **Thursday, June 1st at 10am** to begin the month of June. Classrooms are invited to use this [link](#) to join in the liturgy. For those who prefer to conduct their own liturgy, a slide deck can be found [here](#). Additionally, our daily prayers for the month will highlight the many contributions that 2SLGBTQI+ people have made, and continue to make, in Canada and beyond.

We are pleased to offer virtual presentations from *Get Real*. *Get Real* began as a small student project at the University of Western in 2011 and has since grown to include chapters of the organization across Canada. On **June 5 from 8:30 am to 9:30 am**, grade 9 to 12 students are invited to join a virtual presentation while grade 7 and 8 students are welcome to join from **9:45 am to 10:15am**. Each presentation will be geared directly to those specific age groups. Further information and links for the presentation will follow at a later time.

The *Curriculum Department*, with support from the *RFL & EI Department* and with community partners, is proud to present mentor texts and rich resources/activities to each of our schools within our shared resources below. The elementary and secondary mentor texts should be arriving via internal mail during the week of May 23rd. Please consider integrating these resources into your lessons throughout the school year. Let us use Pride month as an opportunity to strengthen our commitment to allyship and inclusivity.

As always, please reach out with feedback and updates on how your school or classroom celebrated Pride month by emailing Mandy.Clendining@cdsbeo.on.ca.

Pride Month Classroom Activities and Links

Grade/ Division	Description	Link
All Grades	Daily Prayers and Bios	https://bit.ly/PrideCDSBEOBios Prayers
All Grades	Pride Month Liturgy Live Liturgy will take place on Thursday, June 1st@ 10 am . Information in memo above.	https://bit.ly/PrideCDSBEOLiturgy
Grades 7 to 12	Get Real Virtual Presentation June 5 th 8:30am – grades 9 to 12 June 5 th 9:30am- grades 7 and 8	Links will follow at a later date
All Grades	Please capture photos or videos of what PRIDE month looks like in your school and community and upload them to the linked Forms.	https://bit.ly/CDSBEOPrizeCapture
Staff	Mental Health Resources – Allyship and Supporting our Students	https://bit.ly/CDSBEOPrizeMentalHealthStaff
Staff	Fr. James Martin – Five Things to Remember	https://bit.ly/CDSBEOFrJamesMartin
Staff and All Grades	2SLGBTQI+ Community Resources	https://bit.ly/PrideCDSBEOResources
Kindergarten and Primary	Curriculum Resources to support Pride Month <i>A Family is a Family is a Family</i> by Sara O’Leary	https://bit.ly/CDSBEOPrizeFamily
Junior and Intermediate	Curriculum Resources to support Pride Month <i>The Fabulous Zed Watson</i> by Basil and Kevin Sylvester	https://bit.ly/CDSBEOPrizeZedWatson
Intermediate/ Senior	Curriculum Resources to support Pride Month <i>Darius the Great is Not Okay</i> by Adib Khorram	https://bit.ly/CDSBEOPrizeDarius
Primary and Junior	French Curriculum Resources to support Pride Month	https://bit.ly/FSLPrideCDSBEO