

## Equity Team News

February, 2021

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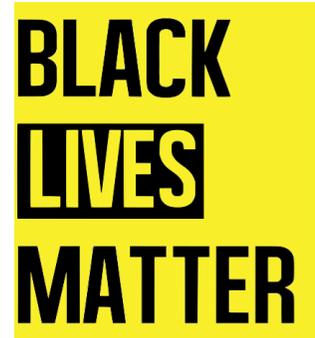
### Who are we?

The Equity Team is a group of staff members from Bicentennial School whose goal is to help create a more positive and supportive school culture for all members of our school community.

### What do we do?

The Equity Team is responsible for proactively providing education and supports to staff and students regarding issues of racism, discrimination, as well as sexual harassment and misconduct.

The team will be developing a monthly communication to share information, updates and resources for our school community.



### Inclusion and Equity

The Nova Scotia Inclusion Policy includes guiding principles that relate to valuing student voices and choices and that every child deserves to belong, feel welcomed and safe. Our provincial policy commits to honouring and respecting each student's cultural and linguistic identities and systems of knowledge. We work to eliminate barriers that interfere with students' well-being and achievement.

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## What We've Done:

- Purchased books and resources (thanks to the SAC Grant Funding) for teachers, specific to anti-racism and anti-oppression. Teachers have a basket of new books to add to their classroom libraries to read and share.
- A new gender-neutral washroom on the upper level for students to feel comfortable and safe.
- Our school has established **Bicentennial Safe Space**, a virtual Gender and Sexuality Alliance community for our students who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community, or have identified themselves as allies. This space is designed to be a place where students and facilitators can share ideas, discuss topics, make connections and share experiences.
- Purchased “colors of the world” crayons that include many skin tones and colors for our elementary classes. Special thanks for the generous donation from a parent of our school community.
- Gathered, organized, and sorted resources for staff to use in classroom practice.



## Monthly Learning:

Our students at Bicentennial have been engaging in discussions and lessons surrounding anti-racism and anti-oppression. As a school, we have introduced and defined a variety of terms and topics based on grade level. Some of these terms include: race, racism, discrimination, oppression, equity, and more.

\*Please contact the Equity Team for more information or resources. If you are interested in sharing feedback or have questions for the team please contact us via e-mail at [bicent@hrce.ca](mailto:bicent@hrce.ca) or 902 464 2094.

