

## **Agenda for Holy Cross School's Feb. 15, 2019 Equity PD Day**

**Gather in library at 8:30 for Opening Prayer**

**Thank you to the team led by M. Andre-Cottrell. Team members include: C. Peric, M.B. Robinson, and R. Primeau**

### **Rationale:**

Based on the Bishops of Ontario's Pastoral Letter *Renewing the Promise*, schools will plan their own site-based PD Day. This will follow the strategy used for Faith Day: a menu of possible suggestions and resources provided for the schools to self-select their own strategies and plan for the day. Schools may team up with each other to develop a day (e.g. FOS etc.)

### **Title:**

#### **An Inquiry into Renewing the Promise:**

**Reflection, Discernment and Passionate Commitment on the Journey to Deepening Equity and Inclusion in Catholic Education as a True Encounter with Jesus**

### **Learning Goals:**

We are learning to deepen our critical consciousness regarding Equity and Inclusion in order to apply it to our professional practice at the Halton Catholic District School Board.

### **Opening Prayer/ Honoring the Land: (C. Peric)**

Prayer Service to be provided for all sites to use based on the Road to Emmaus and our understanding that the path to Equity and Inclusion is a journey.

### **Introduction: (M. Andre-Cottrell)**

Schools to be provided with a video introduction of:

- a) Pat Daly speaking on Equity and Inclusion at HCDSB.
- b) Sita Jayaraman introducing herself and her role, and speaking to Equity in broader terms.
- c) A brief overview of the purpose of the day, rationale, learning goal, inquiry question, topic (emphasis on developing critical consciousness/equity literacy in order constantly consider equity perspectives as a way to promote student well-being and achievement).
- d) Link of equity and inclusion literacy to *Renewing the Promise*

***Suggestions for Format:***

**MINDS ON: (M.B. Robinson, M. Andre-Cottrell)**

**Option 4:** Schools design their own Minds On linking Equity to *Renewing the Promise*.

**Work together to understand our hidden biases through video and discussion.**

**What is it?**

**Moving from unconscious bias to critical thinking.**

**ACTION:**

Schools choose one of following sections in *Renewing the Promise* to address. Each section comes with a main Inquiry Question and smaller Topic Questions which help unpack the larger theme.

*Section One:*

### **A Community That Accompanies** (pages 6 – 7)

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus helps his disciples to understand the faith and teaches us that the art of accompaniment is about taking the time to walk alongside one another to listen, and in so doing, to transform. Each person in a Catholic school practices accompaniment by helping students realize their own unique story is given greater meaning and purpose in knowing and living the story we share in Christ.

**Inquiry Question:**

**How do we accompany students and staff on their life journey so that:**

**1) They feel included and their voices are heard in within our Catholic classroom and Catholic school practices?**

**and/or**

**2) We include and accompany as part of our Church understanding of who we are, what we believe and what our mandate is as Catholic educators?**

Examples of possible Topic Questions to unpack the inquiry:

1) How do I include the voices of my non-Catholic school students in our Catholic practices?

- 2) What deep understanding do I need to accompany our LGBTQ students and families in their journeys within a Catholic context?
- 3) How do I look deeper into our population and practices to see the voices that may be currently hidden from my view (e.g. hidden poverty, small numbers of racialized students, Indigenous students who have not self-identified etc.)?
- 4) School may develop their own inquiry question.

### Lunch Break

## Consolidation: Renewing the Promise

True encounter with Jesus can and does take place each day in schools. Together we renew that promise by continuing to strengthen our schools as inclusive communities that exemplify the good news in word and deed.

### Art Activity: "Footprints" poem connection to Holy Cross School (Renee)

**Creative response for prayer table.**

### Follow Up:

- 1) School Staff to complete PD Day Survey from Research and Development Department.
- 2) School Administrators to complete Questionnaire from Research and Development Department
- 3) School who created or revised Equity Action Plans to submit them to Sita Jayaraman, HCDSB Senior Manager, Human Rights and Equity.