



Join Us for a Discussion of Equity and Inclusion in Education for Student Well-Being

Thursday October 12, 2017

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Waterloo Region District School Board Education Centre

51 Ardel Avenue, Kitchener

Recently the Social Development Centre Waterloo Region and Social Planning Council of Cambridge & North Dumfries invited several members of this community to join others from across the province who are involved in public education as teachers, administrators, students, parents, and researchers at a two-day meeting in Burlington. We met to explore equity and inclusion in the education system, with a particular focus on youth in low income families.

All recognized that there are many factors in the system, in communities, in the school and classroom that create inequities and exclusion for low income students, often intersecting with other historically marginalized communities including but not limited to indigenous, racialized, immigrant and refugee, differently abled, gendered and LGBTQ+.

Coming from 14 communities across the province, we agreed to stay connected as a network of “equity champions” to work on moving from exploration and understanding of the issues to creating strategies and resources that could be used together by educators, students, parents and community advocates to reduce inequity and exclusion in education.

We agreed to start by holding conversations in our respective communities on the issues and sharing across our communities what people think are the causes and solutions. And so, here in Waterloo Region, we are reaching out to you to join in this discussion and to consider how we can develop a local network of champions.

To RSVP email trudy@waterlooregion.org or

Phone 519-579-3800 and leave name and contact information. Please let us know if you need assistance to participate such as childcare, transportation, interpreters.

Discussion questions:

- *What would equity and inclusion in education look like for low income students?*
- *What evidence do you have that low income students experience inequity and exclusion in their schooling?*
- *What role does poverty play in the educational experience of elementary and high school students?*
- *What examples or stories can you share about equity or inequity in education from your own experience or observations as a student, parent, and/or educator?*
- *What inequities do you think are general across the province's education system and which do you think are especially evident here in our community?*
- *What kind of knowledge or information do you think we need to reduce/eliminate inequities in education and to achieve full inclusion?*