## **3-2-1 GUEST TEMPLATE**

Name: Cassandra Longmuir Title or Topic: Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

**Date:** October 12, 2021

## 3 Big Takeaways, New Understandings

- 1. A classroom is filled with diversity. Students come into the school with different cultures and beliefs. It's important to ensure that teachers include learning and exploring the traditions and celebrates our students participate in throughout their lives, not solely focusing on western tradition (Halloween, Christmas, Easter, etc.). Not all of our students will celebrate these, so it is essential to learn about their culture and traditions, so the students feel included in the class learning.
- 2. English language learners need the opportunity to learn English in a stress-free environment. By this, I mean not putting the student on the spot to speak English, but using small group interaction, providing the same book in their native language and English. An idea brought up in this article was learning words and phrases from your student's native language. Greeting the student in their native language; making this effort shows the students to be proud of their language. We encourage them to continue broadening their native language and be bilingual learners.
- 3. Creating a gender-friendly classroom so that all students feel comfortable and safe to be themselves. Examining the classroom material, so it promotes inclusion. Openly questioning your material with students helps students understand what gender diversity is and that gender cannot fit into a box. This questioning process can show students that gender is a fluid concept and not concrete.

My prof in EFDN 306 show the class this resource and it's great for helping teachers find ways to incorporate 2SLGBTQ+ content in the curriculum. It has all subjects,

Gender and Sexual Diversity | Student Wellness and Well-being | Government of Saskatchewan

## 2 Connections

- 1. During my school experience, my teacher would greet us with "Good morning, boys and girls" or create groups by having the boys on one side and the girls on the other. A lot of the greetings and groups were based on gender. Now going into schools, teachers greet students with "friends, leaders, grade twos, etc." I believe we are moving away from gendering our students.
- 2. As a teacher, it's important to have an inclusive classroom with diverse material. If, as a class, we discuss Halloween or Christmas, I believe it is also our responsibility to educate ourselves on the other celebrations the students may have (Eid) and during Ramadan have lessons and activities on Ramadan. As a teacher, I would try to find someone with more knowledge on these traditions to bring into my classroom to teach them.

## 1 Question

How do teachers deal with parents who are against their children learning about gender diversity? I know connecting the material to the curriculum and having the backup evidence of the curriculum to demonstrate how this content pertains to the outcome. How do we work with parents who refuse to allow their child to be taught about the 2SLGBTQ+ community?