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Darrel Robertson

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May 29, 2024

Dear parents, families and guardians,

In 2019, the Division's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to declare the first week of June as Pride Week across Edmonton Public Schools. Since then, we have recognized the week in schools.

Celebrating diversity

We recognize the value of diversity across all students, families and staff. Schools acknowledge events and days of significance throughout the year, and Pride Week at the Division is part of that work. Pride is a time for all of us to come together and show support for 2SLGBTQIA+ staff, students and families.

Pride Week is supported by a <u>Board policy</u> and Division <u>administrative regulation</u> on sexual orientation and gender identity in schools. It's also supported by a Board policy outlining <u>welcoming</u>, <u>inclusive</u>, <u>safe and healthy learning and working environments</u>.

Safe and inclusive learning spaces

Public education and public schools are for everyone, and every student has the right to feel safe and supported at school.

Pride Week activities are rooted in building positive relationships, respect and understanding of different experiences and reducing discrimination. I think we can all agree that our schools should be respectful, inclusive and welcoming places for everyone in the school community and we all have a role to play in making this happen.

Communication between schools and families

If you have any questions about what Pride Week looks like at your school, reach out to your child's principal. Schools will be sharing their plans for Pride Week with families in advance, and are always open to conversations with families.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Darrel Robertson

Superintendent of Schools

