

DSBN Indigenous Education Update

October 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Indigenous Student Leadership Circle (ISLC)

- Nodin Buck – Indigenous Student Trustee, will be connecting with student reps from each secondary school to bring a collective voice to the work he is doing. Virtual monthly circles will connect First Nations, Métis, and Inuit secondary students from across the board with the support of the Indigenous Education team.

Teacher Navigator Program – Walking Together

- This program is designed for elementary educators to develop a deeper understanding of Indigenous Education, sovereignty, history, perspectives, and current realities of the Indigenous community across the nation and as well as locally.
- With the success of the 2022-23 program, we will be opening this up to a new group of elementary teachers this school year.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- Both Elementary and Secondary Indigenous Ed staff have created internal websites to support teacher learning along with lessons for students.
- Elementary team put together texts/resources and created inquiry-based lessons for each elementary grade. They have provided school wide activities along with virtual opportunities from across the country. Secondary team created/compiled resources to support teachers across the curriculum.
- We had our Fort Erie and Welland schools join/support the Unity Walk, south St. Catharines students attended events at Brock University, and all schools took part in reflection and grade appropriate learning about the legacy of Residential Schools.

Upcoming events:

- Indigenous post-secondary information fair on December 1, 2023, at Niagara College in partnership with Brock University.
- Our first parent/caregiver engagement session will be coming up in November and will include dinner. Posters with registration information will be sent out to IEAC member organizations and will be posted to Instagram along with the DSBN webpage.

**INDIGENOUS
SELF ID STUDENT
UPDATE**
(As of October 12, 2023)

Elementary **739** Students
Secondary **374** Students

Indigenous Secondary School Student Reps

- We put out a call in September and have responses from 26 Indigenous youth from 11 secondary schools who have shown interest in becoming an Indigenous Students Reps.
- Our first meeting will be virtual on Thursday, October 12 with an in person in early November.
- We are hopeful for feedback from this group and to discuss opportunities to build leadership skills, as well as discussing and supporting leadership opportunities for Indigenous youth system wide, school wide and within community.



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION DSBN
CONNECTING TO THE PAST, SHAPING OUR FUTURE

DSBN Indigenous Education Team

Georgie Groat – Student Achievement Leader and Lead for Indigenous Education (Principal K-12)

Jamie Groat - Elementary Consultant (K-8)

Corry Carter – Indigenous Languages Consultant (K-12)

Kirsty Howie – Instructional Coach - First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies (9-12)

Kursten Ransom - Re-engagement and Graduation Coach (9-12)

Sheila Maracle - Indigenous Supports Advisor (K-12)

Ashley Buck – Social Worker - Indigenous Students (K-12)

Ann Gilmore - Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (9-12)

Marian Reimer Friesen - Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (K-8)

For more information, please contact Georgie Groat at Georgia.Groat@dsbn.org
or visit our website at www.dsbns.org/programs-services/indigenous-education

