

Resources Purchased with Equity and Inclusion Funds for HSCDSB schools

Title of the Book	Division	General Category of Book
Crayon Box Who Talked The different colours need to learn to get along.	picture book	Diversity
The Girl Who Hated Books Girl's parents have books everywhere in their house, so girl hates books. The characters of some of the books start to fall out of the books so the girl has to read the books to figure out where the characters need to go and she learns the joy of reading.	picture book	Diversity
And Tango Makes Three Two male penguins adopt a baby penguin. Based on a true story.	Primary/Junior non fiction	Diversity
Stuck with the Blooz Some days it is hard to shake the blooz, but it possible. What do you do when you're feeling blue?	Primary/Junior	Mental Health/Depression
Why are All the Taxi Drivers...? Chris D'Souza's daughter question for her mom about the way things are, and why they are the way they are.	All divisions	Inclusion
Come and Learn With Me Sheyenne Jumbo (Grade 5) teaches children about her community in Trout Lake, NWT.	Primary/Junior non fiction	Diversity/FNMI
Afternoon of the Elves A young girl takes care of her mentally ill mother so they live in poverty and a girl from school befriends the girl and her unique ideas and imagination.	Junior Fiction	Mental Illness
Amazingly Alpie! Understanding and Accepting Different Ways of Being A book that speaks directly to children who are trying to understand why children with special needs are the way they are. The book uses a computer theme.	Junior Fiction	Diversity
China Clipper Pro football's first Chinese-Canadian player, Normie Kwong	Junior/Intermediate non fiction	Diversity – Sports
Out of the Box Life goes smoothly for Ellie if she keeps her opinions to herself, gets good grades and tiptoes around her parents' moods. During a summer visit to an aunt she discovers a story of political intrigue and family secrets that help her to figure out her family problems.	Junior Fiction	Mental Illness
Hugging the Rock Before Rachel's mom leaves, she tells Rachel that her dad is a rock, the good kind you can always count on. Now, left alone with her emotionally distant father, Rachel has more questions than answers. Over time she learns the truth about her mom. But it's only when she learns the truth about her dad – the rock – that she can move toward understanding. Very powerful. Written in prose.	Junior/Intermediate Fiction	Mental Health
Lessons from a Street Kid Craig Kielburger's story about going to Brazil to learn about the life of street kids.	Junior/Intermediate non fiction	Inclusion/Poverty
Extra Credit Abby Carson is failing Gr. 6 not because she can't do the work but because she doesn't like to do the work. She has to do extra credit work to not fail. She begins to write letters to a boy in Afghanistan. Both children learn so much more than what is expected. Their growing friendship is also becoming a growing problem for both communities.	Junior/Intermediate fiction	Diversity

Better Than Weird

Junior fiction

Inclusion

Aaron isn't like other kids. He sounds like a hyena when he laughs, and he can't sit still, but he has managed to make a couple of friends – and one enemy – the school bully.

Wonder

High Junior/intermediate

Diversity

Wonder is about seeing the beauty that's all around us. Auggie Pullman is an exceptional human being that you will fall in love with. Many teachers are reading this novel to their classes.

Divergent

Intermediate fiction

Diversity

What if we belonged to factions based on our core quality? We might still belong to our families unless we were divergent and then our life would change dramatically. Very popular novel!

No Ordinary Day

Intermediate Fiction

Inclusion

A young Valli has no parents and an usual tolerance for heat and cuts on her feet. She has leprosy but doesn't know it. All she knows is that Monsters do exist and she tries to stay away from them. Eventually she is treated for leprosy and she accepts the Monsters at the hospital where she gets cured. (40 books in Media)

Real Justice

Intermediate Non Fiction

Inclusion/exclusion

Robert Baltovich is charged and convicted with a crime he did not commit. He spends time in jail and is eventually cleared. His spirit is not squashed or defeated by the experience. (40 books in Media)

Wounded

Intermediate fiction

Mental Illness/PTSD

A father has served in Afghanistan and returned home suffering from Post-traumatic Stress disorder. His son helps his father get help that he needs to adjust to being home.

Black & White

Intermediate fiction

Diversity

Thomas and Denyse start hanging out and they discover that they have a lot in common and the only major difference is the colour of their skin. Both are surprised at the cruel glances, name calling, and hurtful comments they endure when they are together. They can't understand what the big deal is, but will the pressure of others' prejudices break them apart?

Me, Myself and Ike

Intermediate fiction

Mental Illness

Kit Latimer had a girlfriend, a few close friends and a solid family life. Now his only friend is the enigmatic and possibly deranged Ike, who convinces Kit to undertake a secret and very dangerous mission. Increasingly alienated, paranoid and confused, Kit stands to lose everything – including his life – if Ike has his way. Ike is Kit's alternate personality.

Soames on the Range

Intermediate fiction

Sexual Orientation

A teenage boy's father leaves his family to live with his boyfriend. The boy acts out and life becomes very chaotic. He wonders if he will be gay as well.

Stitches

Intermediate fiction

Sexual Orientation

A young boy creates costumes and puppets. He is made fun of but his friends rally around him.

Am I Blue?

Young Adult Fiction

Sexual Orientation

Several short stories dealing with questions of sexual orientation.

Beyond Blonde

Young Adult fiction

Diversity

In Beyond Blonde sixteen-year-old Sophie Kandinsky's world erupts: Papa leaves home to get sober; Mama retreats within herself; her first love, Luke, is forced to get married; and even her refuge in basketball is threatened. To make matters worse, her own body betrays her at every single turn! Luckily, Sophie's adored Blondes and audacious Aunties are there to help her navigate the cascading catastrophes and shocking secrets with humour and heart.

Child of Dandelions

Young Adult fiction

Diversity

A beautiful, touching story of a child caught between two worlds, in a country caught in the grip of a brutal army dictator. Shenaaz Nanji evokes wonderfully the purity and bewilderment of a child awakening to terror and discovering a wretched reality.

Crossover

Young Adult fiction

Sexual Orientation

Kyle Evans has a great jump shot, a beautiful girl friend, a lot of friends – and a secret that’s about to turn his life upside down. When an old friend encourages Kyle to try out for a part in the school play, Kyle has to deal with more than stage fright. After an act of vandalism shocks the school, Kyle realizes that it’s time for him to take a stand, even if it means his team will suffer.

Get Well Soon

Young Adult fiction

Mental Illness

Anna Bloom is depressed – so depressed that her parents have committed her to a mental hospital with a bunch of other messed-up teens. Here, she meets a roommate with a secret (and a plastic baby), a doctor who focuses way too much on her weight, and a cute, shy boy who just might like her. [There are many bad words used in the context of youth culture language i.e. shit, pissed, bastard, bitch, asshole and fucking] The content is not questionable but the language may be.

In the Garage

Young Adult fiction

Sexual Orientation & Mental Illness

Written in journal style, it is a story of an obese girl whose mother abandons her as a child and a gay boy whose father has exceptionally high expectations for him. The story revolves around the outing of the gay boy by some obnoxious girls who are attracted to him. The gay boy dies and the obese girl spends time in a psych ward for harming herself.

Luna

Young Adult fiction

Sexual Orientation – transgendered youth

A transgendered youth confides her double life to her sister.

To Be Mona

Young Adult fiction

Mental Illness

Sage Priestly is seventeen, and she longs to reinvent herself – to strip away the fat, the past, the crazy mom, the unpaid bills. She longs to be her own version of the gorgeous and popular Mona Simms. She starts dieting and exercising. She gets blond highlights and throws away all of her black clothes. Bit by bit she transforms herself. This is deeply troubling to her best friend, Vern, who is secretly in love with Sage just the way she is. But the boyfriend Sage wants, the popular jock Roger, suddenly notices her. And when they start dating, Sage thinks her life is turning around. So why isn’t Sage happier? Roger is a little too controlling and pushy.

BOOKS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Crush by Carrie Mac

Youth Adult fiction

Sexual Orientation

A girl who believes she is straight is attracted to a girl who is lesbian/queer. It is a very good story but the questioning girl has had multiple male sexual partners.

Suicide Notes by Michael Thomas Ford

Youth Adult fiction

Sexual Orientation and Mental Illness

Fifteen-year-old Jeff wakes up on New Year’s Day to find himself in the psychiatric ward. With the nutjobs. Never mind the bandages on his wrists, clearly this is all a huge mistake. Jeff is perfectly normal – not like the other kids in the hospital with him. They’ve got problems. But a funny thing happens as Jeff’s forty-five day sentence drags on: the crazies start to seem less crazy. It is a good story but there are a couple of scenes where Jeff is raped by another male patient. He eventually discovers he may be gay but the rape is not dealt with.

BOOKS ON BULLYING AND EIE TOPICS IN A LIBRARY AT CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE FOR TEACHER USE

Teachers may access these books by contacting Sister Pat and she will send them in the courier. Please read the book before presenting it to the class.

Primary Level

A Tale of Two Mommies by Vanita Oelschlager – picture book

Two mommies is a heartwarming book. It provides a platform for discussing a timely topic: the love and support all children want, and need from their parents and peers. [to be used when a child comes to school with two mommies]

Chester Raccoon and the Big Bad Bully by Audrey Penn – picture book (with CD read story)

This book addresses a common problem for school children. Included with the story and on a track by itself is the new, original “Bully Song,” to enhance the library or storytime reading.

Living with mom and living with dad by Melanie Walsh

My mom and dad don’t live together anymore, so now I have two homes. They are different, but I love them both!

My Brother Charlie by Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete – picture book

It is a wonderful story that will help readers identify with being the parent, sibling, relative or friend of a person with autism. Anyone who reads this book will learn to live with understanding.

My Princess Boy: A mom’s story about a young boy who loves to dress up by Cheryl Kilodavis

This is a nonfiction picture book about acceptance. I wrote the story to give children and adults a tool to talk about unconditional friendship. When I feared my young son would be teased or bullied for wearing a dress to school, I spoke with his preschool teacher. She shared my fears with others, and a plan was put in place to support him and others who express themselves differently. In light of the many unthinkable outcomes of bullying, discussions about acceptance can help get our world back to the basics – compassion.

Pink Me Up by Charise Mericle Harper – picture book

A little girl wants to help her dad look great in PINK.

Sorry by Norbert Landa and Tim Warnes – picture book

Bear and Rabbit are the very best of friends. They live in their Bear-Rabbit house and cook their Bear-Rabbit meals in their Bear-Rabbit kitchen. But one day they spy a wonderful shiny thing and quickly find themselves in a terrible disagreement. Could this be the end of a very special friendship?

Stop Picking on Me: A First Look at Bullying by Pat Thomas – picture book

This approachable picture book explores the difficult issue of bullying in reassuringly simple terms. The fears, worries, and questions surrounding this upsetting experience are made accessible to young children.

The Colors of Us by Karen Katz – picture book

Bold illustrations celebrate diversity with a child’s open-hearted sensibility and a mother’s love. A tasty tale that showcases the many shades of the skin we’re in.

Two of a Kind by Jacqui Robbins and Matt Phelan – picture book

In ins and outs of being in, or out.

William’s Doll by Charlotte Zolotow – picture book

More than anything, William wants a doll. “Don’t be a creep,” says his brother. “Sissy, sissy,” chants the boy next door. Then one day someone really understands William’s wish, and makes it easy for others to understand, too.

Junior Level

Be the Star That You Are! A book for kids who feel different by Susan Heyboer O’Keefe

Children feel “different” for many reasons. Unfortunately in a world so focused on external appearances, visible talents, and physical ideals, children can come to see differences as a cause for shame. Adults must acknowledge these feelings, and at the same time reassure children that the characteristics which set them apart also make each of them a unique gift to the world. With the help of the sprightly elves in this book, you can encourage your child to accept, value, and celebrate the differences among us!

Better than You by Trudy Ludwig – picture book

This is a true-to-life story that captures the triumph of new skills and friendships over the demoralizing, in-your-face, boastful behavior of some boys. This book will be useful to any child on the giving and receiving end of bragging.

How to Handle a Bully by Nancy Wilcox Richards – small chapter book

Rilla and her friends are meeting at the park every day to practice for Bayfield’s first annual Fitness Challenge. The winner gets a brand new bike! But can Rilla ace all the events, including the bicycle obstacle course – and handle the playground bullies, too?

How to Outplay a Bully by Nancy Wilcox Richards – small chapter book

Tony’s excited about signing up for hockey. He’s starting late, but a lot of his friends are on the same team, the Bayfield Blazers. There’s just one problem. There’s a bully on the team – a bully who goes after him on and off the ice. Will Tony figure out how to handle him before the season is over?

I Can Speak Bully by Kevin Morrison – picture book

Bullies are tough to deal with – especially in grade school. They always seem to pick on smaller kids and delight in making their lives miserable. So what does a little kid do? “Where there is no love, put love – and you will find love,” said St. John of the Cross. Our hero tries it and finds a dreadful experience is turned into a positive adventure.

Just Kidding by Trudy Ludwig – picture book

D.J.’s classmate is taunting him. He discusses his feelings with his father, his brother, and his teacher, and they give him advice on how to deal with this form of bullying. D.J. learns that telling an adult about bullying is not tattling but seeking help when you are in trouble.

Leave Me Alone: A tale of what happens when you stand up to a bully by Kes Gray & Lee Wildish

A little boy struggles to stand up to a bully until his friends show him that eight loud voices are stronger than one.

My Secret Bully by Tracy Ludwig – picture book

This is a story of a girl (Monica) who has a secret bully. Her friend (Katie) is nice to her when they are alone but mean when others are around. She begins to become ill because of this “secret” and she seeks help from her mother. Her mother encourages her to confront her secret bully. Monica realizes the necessary aspects of a real friend and she is empowered to get out of an unhealthy friendship.

One of Us by Peggy Moss – picture book

True friends respect what makes you who you are. This is a terrific conversation starter for parents and teachers, and a must-read for kids.

out of my mind by Sharon M. Draper – chapter book

11-year-old Melody has a photographic memory. Her head is like a video camera that is always recording. Always. And there’s no delete button. She’s the smartest kid in her whole school – but NO ONE knows it. Most people – her teachers and doctors included – don’t think she’s capable of learning, and up until recently her school days consisted of listening to the same preschool level alphabet lessons again and again and again. If only she could speak up. But eventually she has a voice and the beauty of this young lady is known.

Same, same but different by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw – picture book

Elliot lives in America, and Kailash lives in India. They are pen pals. By exchanging letters and pictures, they learn that they both love to climb trees, have pets, and ride the school bus. Their worlds might look different, but they are actually similar. Same, same but different.

say something by Peggy Moss – picture book – could be used for Intermediate classes too

Bullying is frequently enabled by the bystander who says, “It’s not my responsibility.” “What could I do?” “I didn’t know.” Written with sensitivity, appropriate directness, and astute caveats, *say something* provides a critical alert for children and parents alike with an early, important lesson in civic responsibility.

The Tale of Sir Dragon: Dealing with Bullies for Kids and Dragons by Jean E. Pendziwol & Martine Goubault – picture book

A young boy and his mother are in the park and they meet a friendly dragon. The young boy and dragon are drawn into dragon's storybook. Dragon and the boy go through a series of fairytales where the dragon meets several villains. The young boy keeps dragon from making the same mistakes the original fairy tale characters made. The main theme in the story is be safe and don't talk to suspicious strangers.

The Tallest of **smalls** by Max Lucado – picture book

If you've ever wondered if you're pretty enough, clever enough or funny enough to matter, then meet Ollie. Like all the TOO Smalls of Stiltsville, he desperately wants to fit in. Together they gather each evening to see who is chosen to receive a set of stilts.

Trouble Talk by Trudy Ludwig – picture book

Maya's new friend Bailey loves to talk, and everything – including everyone – is fair game. But when Bailey begins to hurt people's feelings and spread harmful rumours, Maya realizes she's not the friend she needs.

The Worst Best Friend by Alexis O'Neill and Laura Huliska-Beith – picture book

A lively story about the power of kindness and friendship. Could be used by Intermediate Teachers with a sense of humour.

You're Mean, Lily Jean by Frieda Wishinsky & Kady MacDonald Denton – picture book

Carly and Sandy are happy to have a new friend join their games. But Lily Jean changes things. She decides they'll play house and she orders Carly to be the baby. When they play king and queen, she tells Carly to bark – King Lilly Jean demands a royal Dog! Tired of being bossed around, Carly comes up with a way to teach Lily Jean a lesson. With Sandy's help, can she turn a bully into a friend?

Intermediate Level

The Trudy Ludwig titles can be used at the Intermediate Level as read-alouds.

Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson – picture book

Chloe doesn't really know why she turns away from the new girl, Maya, when Maya tries to befriend her. And every time Maya asks if she can play with Chloe and the other girls, the answer is always no. So Maya ends up playing alone. And then one day she's gone. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the opportunity that's been lost. How much better could it have been if she'd just shown Maya a little kindness and opened her heart to friendship?

Egghead by Caroline Pignat – chapter book

Will Reid is an odd kid. He is obsessed with bugs and lousy at gym. In other words, he's the perfect target for Shane, the Grade 9 bully. Katie has been Will's friend since elementary school, but defending him in the high school environment comes at an unforeseen cost. She dreads the rumours that link them in a boyfriend-girlfriend way she'd never considered before. Devan has been part of Shane's bullyboy team until now, when he has come to realize that it's not so funny anymore.

Old Bird Out by Helga Bansch – picture book

Robert is different from all other ravens. He laughs and tells jokes, dresses up and sings. The other birds don't like it at all. It's hard being the odd bird out. What will become of Robert?

The Little Girl Who Did...WHAT?!!! By Diane Dupuy – picture book

The Little Girl from Narrow village must face the trials and tribulations of growing up different from all the other narrow children. The Little Girl looks the same as other children, but **...she farts butterflies!** Then, one day, something very magical happens that will effect everyone who lives in Narrow.

The Undesirables by Paule Brière -- picture book

The king and queen ask their servant to lock up all the "Undesireables" from A to Z. But their servant and two accomplices dig a deep moat around the castle so the king and queen are imprisoned.

EIE WISH LIST BOOKS

My Princess Boy by Cheryl Kilodavis

A mom's story about a young boy who loves to dress up

Pink Me Up by Charise Mericle Harper

Little girl going to a Pink-nic with her Mom but Mom wakes up sick so Dad goes to the Pink-nic pinked up.

Same, same but Different by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw

Elliot lives in America, and Kailash lives in India. They are pen pals. By exchanging letters and pictures, they learn that they both love to climb trees, have pets, and ride a school bus. Their worlds might look different, but they are actually similar.