

Teaching with Diversity in Mind



Alexis Silver & Sara Sulyma



Diversity & Inclusion

What kinds of diversity are we talking about?

Cultural diversity

Consider...

- Bringing in authentic experts
- Researching repertoire, composers, arrangers
- Planning events, concerts, opportunities
- Exploring themes

Learning needs, styles, and language diversity

From Manitoba Education...

“Inclusive schools provide a learning environment that is accessible to all students as a place to learn, grow, be accepted and enjoy all the benefits of citizenship. In an inclusive school, all students are provided with the supports and opportunities they need to become participating students and members of their school communities.”

Learning needs diversity

- Intellectual
- Physical
- Sensory
- Emotional
- Behavioural

INCLUSION IS NOT A PROGRAM



Inclusion is a mindset. It is the way we
treat others and the way they treat us.
Inclusion is the opportunity to learn
together and from one another.

**And we do it because it is
the right thing to do.**

Learning styles diversity

- Visual (spatial): uses pictures, images, and spatial understanding
- Aural (auditory-musical): uses sound and music
- Verbal (linguistic): uses words, both in speech and writing
- Physical (kinesthetic): uses body, hands and sense of touch
- Logical (mathematical): uses logic, reasoning and systems
- Social (interpersonal): learns in groups or with other people
- Solitary (intrapersonal): works alone and use self-study

Language diversity

Some key features of EAL pedagogy for the Arts:

- Use Drama to demonstrate language
- Make verbal curriculum more visual (gestures)
- Make abstract curriculum more concrete (word banks)
- Develop interactive and collaborative learning (and teaching)
- Identify language demands of curriculum and provide models
- Provide opportunities for exploratory talk
- Ensure home languages are valued and used in school
- Provide opportunities to talk before writing (or playing)
- Support through gestures rather than key words

Wellness diversity

- Knowledge
 - Awareness is an important issue in education. Teachers are often the first line of defense for students.
- Mental illness/health
 - The National Alliance on Mental Illness (2016 study) estimates one in five children live with depression.
- Stressors
 - Workload (tests, homework, participation, lack of organizational skills), scheduling and sleep, lack of support, etc.

DIVERSITY



INCLUSION



Socio-economic diversity

Ask, is it...

- Generational
- Situational
- Immigration

How will you consider and plan for this in your community/ school/ program/ daily teaching?

The idea of diversity has changed for me in the past two decades, and continues to do so.

Kids from poverty can need different instruction.

- Brains adapt to suboptimal conditions
- Brains can and do change
- We teachers must facilitate these changes
- We must teach them to teach others

Teaching the kids in front of you:

- Who are they?
- What do they need?
 - Urgency
 - Empathy
- What can they offer?
- How can we assess these things?

From *Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What Being Poor Does to Kids' Brains and What Schools Can Do About It*,
by Eric Jensen

Teaching as decision making. . .

- What to do that you don't already do?
 - Breakfast club? Fundraisers?
- What to stop doing?
 - Fees? Rentals? Uniforms?
- Why do it, so you have a reason to bring energy and commitment?
 - The kids (obviously) and their families (less obvious)
- How to do it?
 - Brainstorming

“To achieve great things,
two things are needed;
a plan, and not quite
enough time.”

- *Leonard Bernstein*





It's all about relationships.

Knowing Our Students

How can we get to know our students?

- September/beginning of term:
 - Ask specific questions
 - Learn their names as fast as possible
 - Getting to Know You Sheets
 - The map

Getting to Know You!

Name: _____

Pronouns (he/she/they/them): _____

Do you play any instruments? How long have you played?

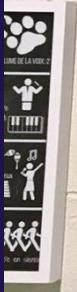
What are you most excited about for this school year?

Is English your first language? _____

If not, what is your most comfortable language? _____

Tell me three fun facts about YOU!

Is there anything you would like me to know about you? (learning abilities, skills, anything you are having a hard time with, something that happened this summer, sports, hobbies, favourite musician/band, favourite video game, whatever you want to put here!)



How can we get to know our students?

- Ongoing:
 - Always greet them at the door, “take the temperature”
 - Tell Me Something Good!
 - Hall break - one student per day/class
 - Go watch their sports ball games/plays/art events etc.
 - Do we have an expert in the room on _____?
 - Depending on the circumstance, journalling
 - Allow them to make requests & listen to them. It’s their music class, we’re just facilitating

How can we get to know our students?

- One-off's
 - Spotify playlist/One Meaningful Song
 - Pictures/parent-teacher-student meetings



8e

Search for playlist
Ecole Lansdowne - 7e!
or user ssulyma to find
our playlist!

Title: With you
Artist: Tyler Snow
Why it's important

Name: [redacted]
Title: Chaconne, Partita No. 2 BWV 1004 - Bach
Artist: Bach
Why it's important to me:
It's a classical piece and it's beautiful.
Played by the violin, the song portrays so much emotion.
Grace

Name: [redacted]
Title: Seven nation army
Artist: The white stripes
Why it's important to me:
This song is important to me because it is the first
song that I am going to learn on my instrument.
Also because whenever I am stressed before a sports
game I listen to the song

Name: [redacted]
Title: Still Breathing
Artist: Green Day
Why it's important to me:
This song is very meaningful; deep, kind of relatable
and many other nice things I have to say that
I also love the band.

Name: [redacted]
Title: Youth Horts
Artist: Lizzo
Why it's important to me:
I find this song inspiring because the lyrics speak to me.
It speaks to me because, it helps me to be me.

Name: [redacted]
Title: Speechless "Aladdin 2019"
Artist: Naomi Scott
Why it's important to me:
The lyrics teach you about speaking up and not to
stay silent. There's tons of amazing string instruments and
percussion in the background which makes it sound dramatic.
I know the meaning is it makes me sing all the highlights of 3am.

Name: [redacted]
Title: Speechless
Artist: Naomi Scott
Why it's important to me:
It's a Disney song. It inspires girls to be stronger.

PG
m. right bc
Name: [redacted]
Title: I Fall Apart
Artist: Post Malone
Why it's important to me:
This song is important to me because my favorite sports player Derrick
Rose had many injuries and "fell apart" like me when I
tore my ACL.

Name: [redacted]
Title: La vie en rose (song and French)
Artist: Édith Piaf
Why it's important to me:
I find this song important to me because
it's relaxing. Another reason why because I don't
have a favorite, the only one I can
think of right now

Name: [redacted]
Title: Don't take my eyes off of you
Artist: Emile Vail
Why it's important to me:
This song played on my parents' first dance. And there's a
saxophone solo.

Name: [redacted]
Title: Build new ketchup
Artist: The Foundations
Why it's important to me:
I love this song because I love the
and the lyrics



Physical Space

Safe vs. Comfortable Classroom - what's the difference?



Unsafe

- feeling targeted
- physical./emotional danger
- bullying

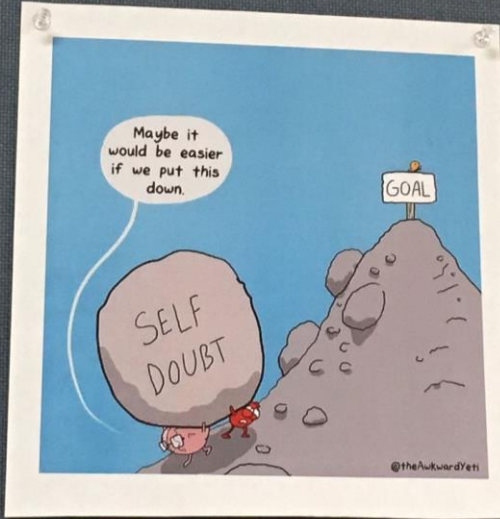
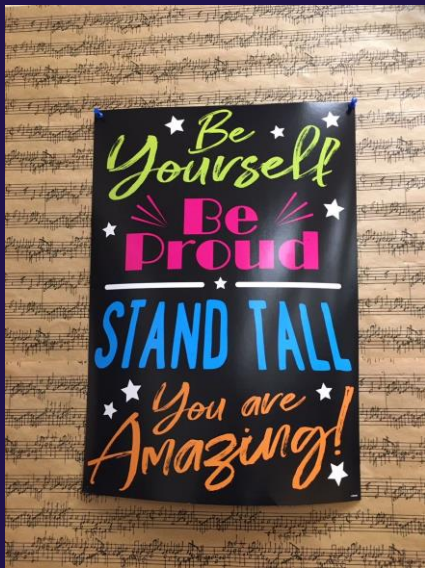
Safe

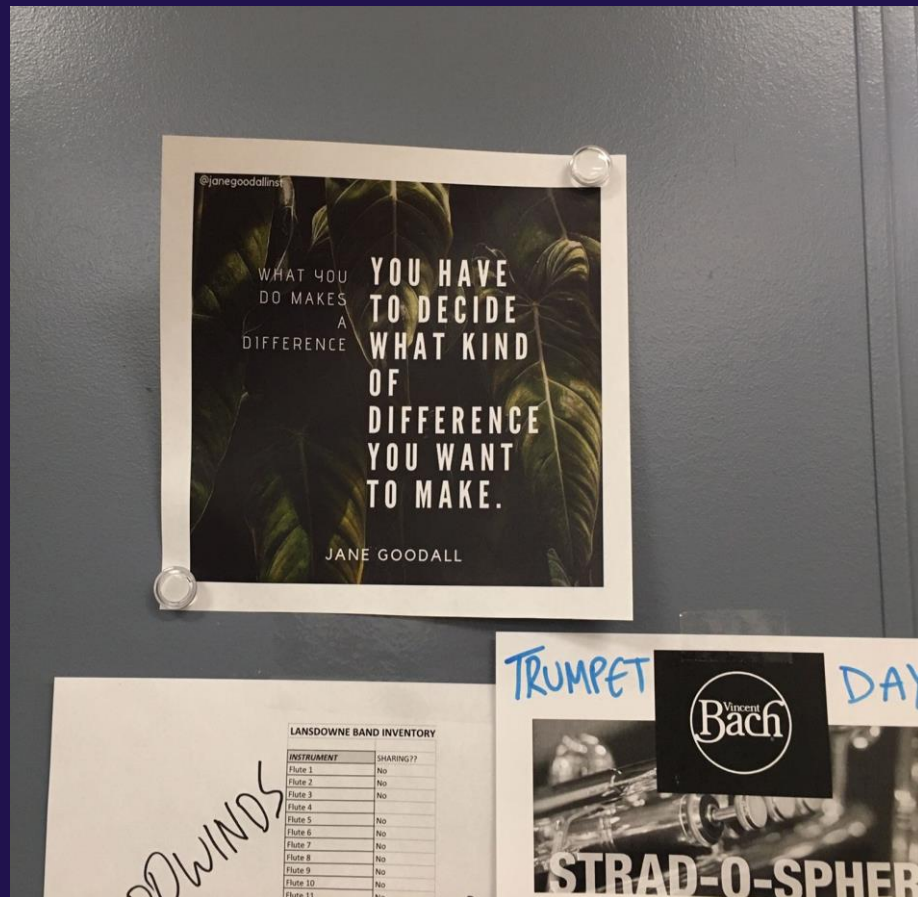
- physical/emotional needs mostly met
- Able to/open to learning

Comfortable

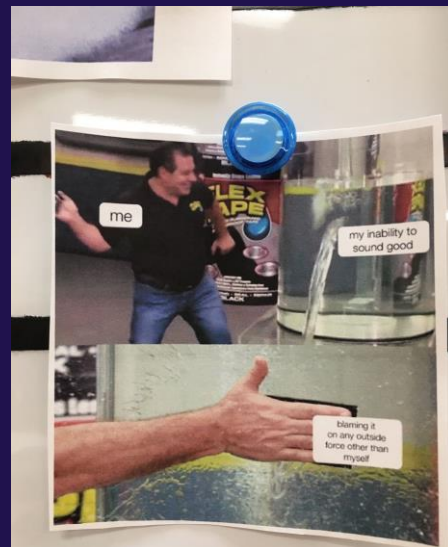
- Feels safe to be who they are
- Can fully realize the best versions of themselves
- Excited about learning
- “Feels like home”











This dog can smell someone who needs to go practice their instrument



Representation

- Listening activities
 - Jessye Norman
 - World strings, woodwinds, brass, perc.
- Reading to the little ones
- Presenting music from around the world,
- Asking/having permission when recreating musical styles from around the world, marginalized communities - what's the power dynamic?

Band Repertoire, Programming

- Picking pieces based on merit while also being mindful of who's in the room, community, are there people who aren't being served/reflected, etc.
- [Composerdiversity.com](https://composerdiversity.com)
- ColourFULL Music - Jodie Blackshaw
- Discussions about composers' backgrounds
- As you find pieces - write them down in one central location!



Diverse Composers of Wind Band Music



File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Add-ons Help



75%

View only



Diverse Rep Resource List Sulyma AFE



File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Add-ons Help Last edit was on December 15, 2018



Compiled by Christian Folk. To submit pie

	A	B
1	Compiled by Christian Folk. To s	submit pieces, please se
2	Composer	Title of Composition
3	Abe, Keiko	Prism Rhapsody
4	Abe, Keiko	Prism Rhapsody II
5	Abe, Yuichi	Fantasia "Fox's Wedding"
6	Abe, Yuichi	Futurism
7	Abe, Yuichi	Genjo
8	Abe, Yuichi	God's Sphere "The Karn Shrine"
9	Abe, Yuichi	Hokuten no Hi
10	Abe, Yuichi	Ile des Pins
11	Abe, Yuichi	In Kucha
12	Abe, Yuichi	Infinito Fervore
13	Abe, Yuichi	Oga kinuburai
14	Abe, Yuichi	Phantasmagoria
15	Abondano, Michele	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
1	COMPOSER	TITLE	COUNTRY	COMPOSED	DIFFICULTY	PUBLISHER/AV#	NOTES	ON
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								

ssulyma@wsd1.org

