



To all TCRCE Students, Staff and Families,

June 16th, 2022

Please join me tomorrow, June 17th, by wearing black to celebrate and honor Black Excellence in our region and beyond. On this day, we celebrate and honor the accomplishments, stories, insights, experiences and struggles of Black people, their families, ancestors, and communities.

As a region, I'm truly appreciative of those from the Black community who continue to share their stories and ongoing struggles as it relates to equity within the region. The first-voice experiences of our Black students, families and staff continue to inform our shared work towards improvement in our system as it relates to anti-black racism. While I'm proud of the small steps we've made as a system, I whole-heartedly to commit to the big steps that lie ahead.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our regional and school-based employees of African descent for their dedication to supporting our youth and their families. I want to acknowledge the work of our Student Support Workers who are most often the go-to supports in our schools for students. Your hard work and dedication continue to be a pillar in our schools. I sincerely appreciate you and I see the dedication you put in. Our system does not succeed without you.

I also want to express my sincere appreciation to our students of African descent and in particular, your courage and bravery in continuing to engage in conversations with the region around your experiences at school and in your communities. I look forward to our collaboration next year and beyond.

While June 17th, 2022, is a historic day, it should serve as a reminder that as a system, we must honor and celebrate our Black Communities, their history, and their struggles in schools and in communities daily. This day serves as a reminder to ensure our students see themselves represented and celebrated and to further our understanding of what inclusive education truly looks and sounds like.

Black Excellence Day is for everyone to acknowledge and celebrate together.

With Gratitude,

Jared Purdy
Regional Executive Director
Tri-County Regional Centre for Education