

Notification from: **Melican Middle School (MMS)**

September 10, 2021

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

The P. Brent Trottier Middle School, Robert E. Melican Middle School, and Algonquin Regional High School are launching the World of Difference Institute Peer Training Program sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). The Program aligns with the District's core values of integrity, empathy, inclusivity, equity, perseverance, and respect.

The Peer Training Program goals are to:

- Explore the meaning of community and why it is essential for all to feel that they belong to the community.
- Examine how some school community members could feel left out and identify ways to ally with those who feel left out.
- Identify what members of the school community can do to actively promote a safe, inclusive, and equitable learning environment in which cultural, racial, and other social identities are respected and valued.

The Program was communicated to students last week, and seventh and eighth grade students have the opportunity to become Peer Leaders. Peer Leaders will take a leading role in facilitating activities and conversations with their peers.

If your seventh or eighth grade student is interested in becoming a Peer Leader, please encourage him/her/them to complete a [Student Interest Form](#). The deadline for submission of the Student Interest Form is Wednesday, September 15 at 2:30 p.m. All dates and deadlines will be shared with students and posted on our website.

The Peer Leaders will engage in a Peer Leader Training Program, which will occur during three school days scheduled over three weeks. The training will focus on helping Peer Leaders develop their leadership potential and gain the skills to facilitate workshops for their peers.

The overarching goal of the training and workshops is to deepen students' understanding of the importance of respecting and valuing each others' commonalities and differences.

Respectfully,

Gregory L. Martineau Rhoda Webb

Superintendent of Schools Director of English Learners and Equity

Michelle Karb

Principal