

ANTI-RACISM PRACTICES IN K-12 SCHOOLS IN SMALL AND RURAL **CENTERS IN** CANADA

> NATALYA BROWN NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

P2P - NORTHERN, RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES

OUR ANTI-RACISM PROJECT

- Motivated by regionalization, anecdotal evidence, and the imbalance in research focus
- Objectives:
 - Understanding the experiences of racialized and newcomer students
 - Identifying promising anti-racism strategies and practices

in K-12 schools in small centres and rural communities

Anti-Racism

Multiculturalism

THE MULTICULTURALISM APPROACH

Celebrating Diversity

Cross-cultural Understanding

Integration

Limited Attention to Power Relations

STUDENT EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES

- Student isolation, conflict and bullying
- Adaptation, sense of belonging, and identity
- Teacher Expectations
- Parent/guardian engagement
- "Hidden" racism



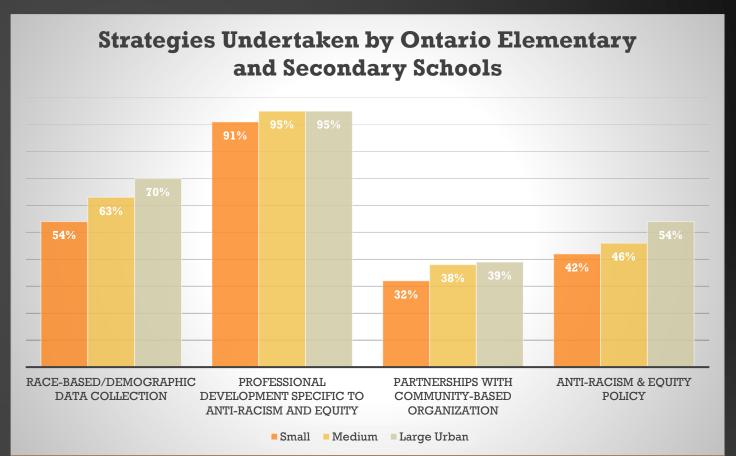


EDUCATION WORKERS EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES

- Lack of racialized teachers, administrators, and board members
- Recognition, Resistance, and Fear of Reprisal
- Staff mental health and well-being
- Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)

IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-RACISM AND EQUITY PRACTICES IN SCHOOLS IN SMALL & RURAL COMMUNITIES IN ONTARIO

- Data collection
- Professional Development
- Partnerships with Community-based Organizations
- Resources and Practices
- Policy, Planning, and Reporting



Source: People for Education Annual Ontario School Survey (2022)

ACADEMIC RISK TAKING IN THE CLASSROOM (MITTON & MURRAY-ORR, 2021)

Teacher expectations and student achievement

Culturally Relevant Pedagogy

Academic Assets and Learning Strengths

Building Relationships

The Student Voice

Fair Assessment Conditions

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

- Using the Data
- SWIS and other System Navigators
- Mental health and Well-being Plans
- Community Partnerships

Anti-Racism: Central and Essential

NEXT STEPS

- Explaining and addressing implementation gaps
- Elementary vs Secondary
- Regional Differences
- Building a corpus of anti-racism initiatives