How we will spend our time

- Make Sense of the BOE Controversial Issues (CI) Policy
- Consider what makes a CI
- Determine WHY we discuss CI
- Consider barriers to effective conversations around CI
- Consider what learning environment kids need to discuss CI
- Decompose effective discussion practices
- Determine best practice protocols for discussing CI
- Test our practice
# 2022-2023 Collective Agreements

## How do we want to feel when we come together?
- Heard
- Respected
- Energized
- Optimistic
- Validated
- Secure
- Safe
- Challenged
- Understood
- Helpful
- Engaged
- Curious
- Accepted
- Proud
- Productive
- Open-Minded

## What actions will we take to ensure we feel that way?
- Make it about our kids
- Ask questions
- Be prepared
- Listen to hear not to respond
- Be self-aware and other aware
- Be guided by facts
- Know it’s ok to disagree
- Practice empathy
- Listen to understand, not to respond
- Be supportive and affirming
- Keep confidentiality
- Be willing to change perspectives and understand other points of view
- Be accountable for our actions, words and behaviors
- Challenge ideas, not people
- Show kindness by being firm on issues and soft on people

## How will we react when someone makes us feel other than the way we want to?
- Pause and take a breath
- Remember this is for and about the kids
- Know what your purpose is for speaking
- Model the tone and respect you want to feel
- Speak in "I feel..." statements
- Model the change not only with words but also actions
- Ask for clarity and support
- Ask clarifying questions
- Reflect back to the other person "I’m hearing you say..." and "I feel."
- Pause, take a breath before reacting
- Gather more information and ask for the story behind the emotion
- Go back to a point of agreement
- Address it—that’s not our norm
- Don’t leave without sharing your thinking
Check in Circle Round

What do you need from others to feel like you can share freely?
Circle Round

What are you thinking about walking into today's meeting?
What do you need from today's group to feel successful?
What we have the power to influence

Difficult, sometimes controversial topics will come up. We have the power to make recommendations about how those are addressed and discussed in class.
What do we need to build trust?

- Teacher training
- Parent communication
- Student input
Thank Yous & Next Steps