

Presentation to the State Board Education Committee



Shelburne Community School



Why were we at the State House in Montpelier?



The Day of Racial Equity and Education

was sponsored by VSARN (The Vermont Students Anti-Racism network) .

The Vermont Students Anti-Racism network is a coalition of students from Vermont who aim to build an anti-racist educational community.

This day was a great opportunity for students from all over Vermont to learn about racial disparities in Vermont. Students will participated in different learning opportunities, educational workshops, student speakers, live music, and food trucks.



What did we notice inside the State House?

All the pictures in the state house were of white males except Madeleine Kunin

Biggest painting in the state house was of The **Battle** of Cedar Creek.

House Chamber was bigger than the Senate Chamber

Stain glass paintings on the ceiling

A knitted replica of the statehouse



What did we enjoy?

The speakers that spoke to the need of educating our communities about racism.

Seeing all the great art work and walking through the state house.

Going to the different workshops (Storytelling, Human Rights Commission, Poetry and food trucks)

Being able to have discussions with people at the tables where they were giving out information about voting.

We liked that we could speak our mind and were treated equally to an adult.

We liked the in person factor because I was able to engage , learn and make relationships

We liked the speeches and eating lunch on the steps



What did we learn?

Our voices counts!

Voting:

- When we are able to vote , we need to in order to get our voice heard.

Human Rights Commission:

- Is in place to help anyone who feels their Human Rights were rights were violated.
We heard about the process and how to contact them if needed.

House Appropriations Committee:

- We found out that they are responsible for appropriating funding for most of the functions of the federal government.



What's Next ?

We are going to share with you a few things that we feel are very important and would add to all students educational journey.



What we feel is important?

Curriculum

Hiring

Experiences



What we hope we can do here at SCS



- Discuss with administration how we can do more to foster an inclusive and a anti- racist school community.
- Create spaces for all of us to learn more about race, power and privilege
- Bring diverse presenters to SCS
- Have more field trips / experiences for all students.
- Share the importance of having diverse teachers for all students in SCS
- Create Affinity Spaces for students

What we hope you all can help us with

Looking at retrieving the data on how many diverse teachers we have in the state.

Talk with the administrators on the importance of hiring diverse staff for all students and also provide training .

Help provide teachers with training on what Culturally Responsive Instruction looks like

Support educational experiences outside the classroom for all students

Do you have questions for us?

"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences." ~ Audre Lorde

