

# Whole School Inclusion



of Immigrant Students

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- Celebrating Diversity
- A Welcoming School
- Student Centered Environment
- Roles of the School and Community

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## Celebrating Diversity

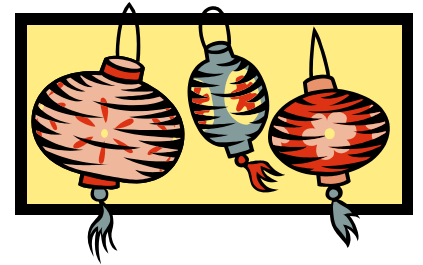


We can:

- ✓ Recognize celebrations from other cultures and religions.
- ✓ Encourage students to share their experiences with the class or school (through a presentation, art, music, storytelling, dance, drama).
- ✓ Encourage students to share their language.
- ✓ Explore diversity through children's literature and young adult titles.
- ✓ Invite parent presentations.



## Celebrate Holidays such as....



- **Ramadan** is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar based on the moon. It is a holy month of fasting followed by a three day feast called Eid [eed]. During Eid, people eat traditional food, visit family and friends and buy new clothes.
- **Diwali**, the festival of lights, is celebrated in October or early November by Hindus. Lakshmi [*Lahk-shmee*], the Goddess of fortune, is the honoured deity of the festival.
- **Chinese New Year** starts with the new moon on the first day of the first month of the Chinese calendar. It is a time of reunion and thanksgiving.



## A Welcoming School

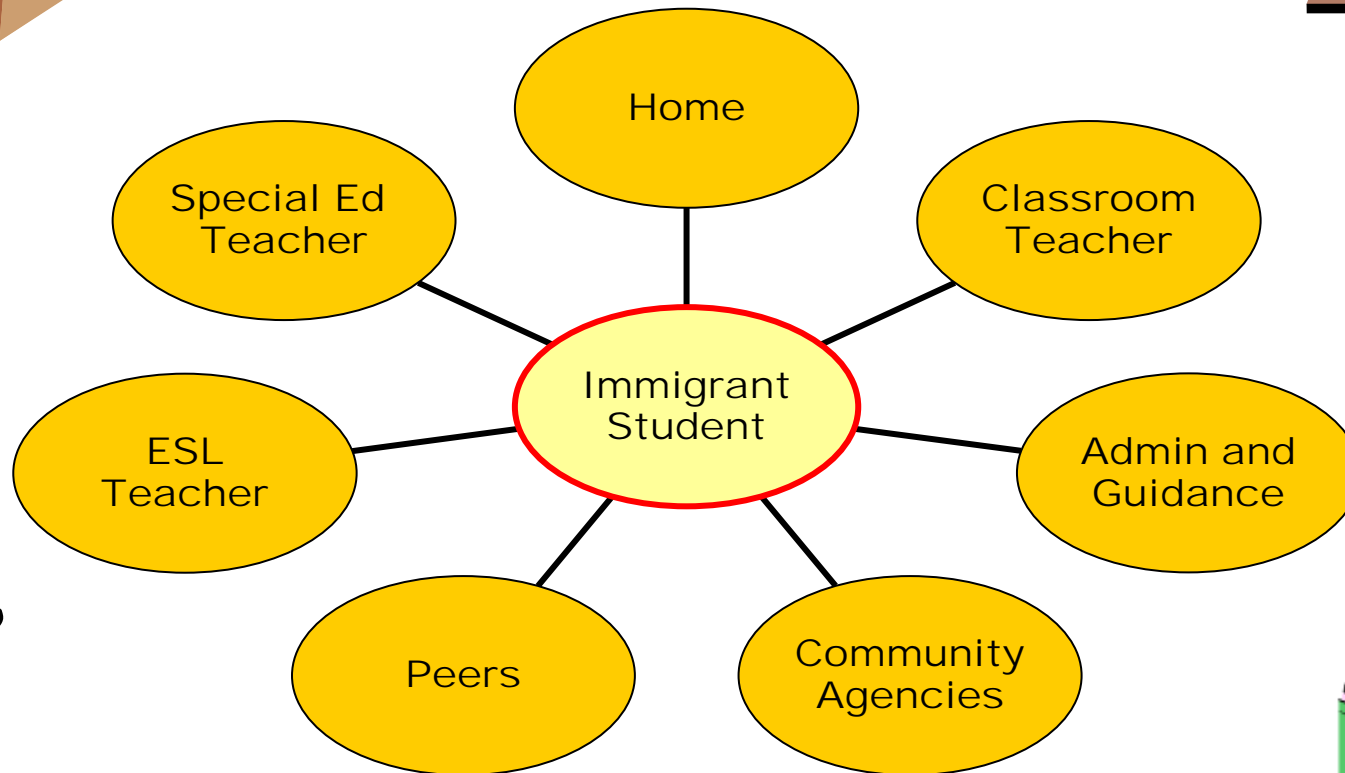
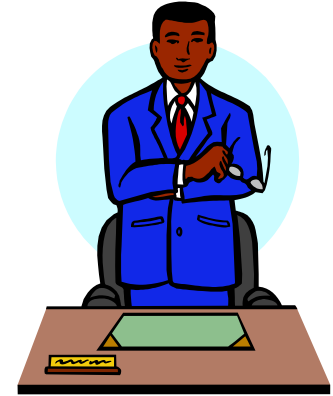


To foster a welcoming environment:

- ✓ Involve students in extra-curricular activities with Canadian born peers.
- ✓ Ensure students interact with Canadian born peers.
- ✓ Involve students in school announcements, assemblies, concerts, etc.
- ✓ Ensure messages sent home are written in simple, plain language.

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- ✓ Plan a multicultural talent show; involve students from the entire school population.
  - ✓ Invite parents for a potluck meal.
  - ✓ Invite parents to volunteer in the school.
  - ✓ Hold formal presentations.
  - ✓ Create a liaison with multicultural associations.
  - ✓ Create a multicultural bulletin board for upcoming events and news.

# Student Centered Environment: Everyone has a role to play.





The *Association for New Canadians* is the official settlement agency for refugees.

The *ANC* offers support to Government-Assisted Refugees. Settlement Workers in the Schools (SWIS) are a liaison between school and home.

They:

- Arrange or offer support in issues related to culture and settlement (hygiene, housing, clothing, medical concerns, etc.).
- Arrange translation services.
- Offers homework clubs at some schools, according to numbers.
- Arrange one-on-one volunteer tutors for some students.
- Arrange summer programs.



## Small Group Discussion



- What do you see as the roles of each of the following regarding Immigrant students?
  - Classroom Teacher
  - ESL Teacher
  - Special Education Teacher
  - Administration
  - Guidance
  - Peers/Classmates
  - School Support Staff
- What community organizations can be contacted for support?

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## Conclusion

- All staff have a role to play in inclusion of immigrant children.
- Community organizations can be contacted for support.

Questions? Comments?

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The Department of Education thanks the working group that created the series of presentations on working with ESL and immigrant students:

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