

A Note from Superintendent Jeff Simons

As I reflect on the experiences of our schools, students and families of the last few years there have been many challenges including the pandemic, social and political strife and the negative influences such as social media on our children. Despite these challenges, our schools have remained strong and united in our efforts to focus on the students and to ensure a positive, inclusive climate for learning and growth for all children.

We enjoy strong, child-centered partnerships with our families, with the towns we serve and with the community organizations and businesses within our region.

The diversity of our students, families and within our workforce and community is a source of strength within our school district and one which we are choosing to celebrate.

We wish to invite you to this celebration!

Our district's Committee to Promote Global Education is developing strategies to enhance student, staff and community understanding, appreciation and celebration of diversity and inclusivity within our school community.

We have adopted as our motto **Unity in CommUnity** and wish to invite your participation in a community-wide literacy initiative titled **One District, One Community, One Book!**

Sincerely,

Jeff Simons
Superintendent of Schools

One District, One Community, One Book

The East Greenbush Central School District's Committee to Promote Global Education has developed a community-wide literacy initiative titled **One District, One Community, One Book!**

Beginning on March 1 and running through April 5, we want students and adults alike, from all across our community, to read the book, **The Elephant in the Room** by Holly Goldberg Sloan.

This literacy initiative will act as a book club for our school district and beyond.

Goals:

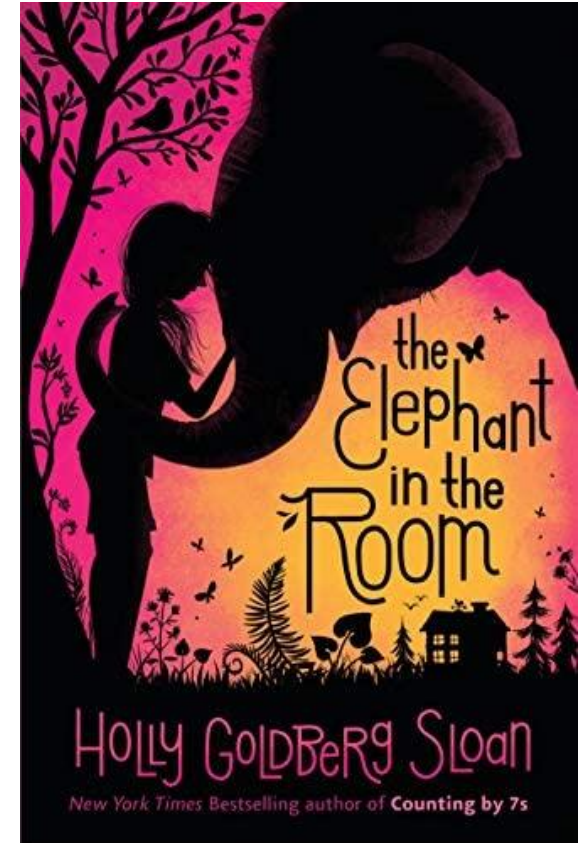
- Encourage students, staff, families and community members to read the book and participate in school-sponsored activities.
- Display posters and student work related to the **Elephant in the Room** in their place of business or home.
- Join book talks and discussion groups facilitated by school personnel.
- Bring our community closer together through a love of reading!

Please consider this opportunity to celebrate our diversity, to promote unity, and to get involved with our school district.

If you are interested in participating in One District, One Community, One Book or serving as a guest reader, please fill out our interest form at www.egcsd.org/onebook.

“One District, One Community, One Book”

*A book club for students and adults
across our community!*



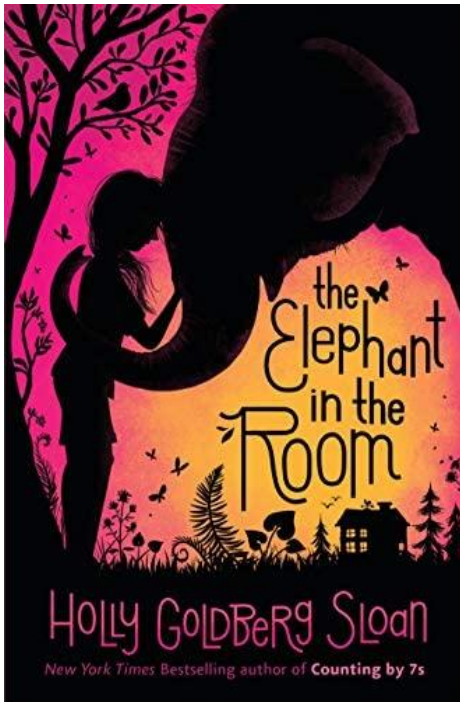
East Greenbush Central School District
www.egcsd.org/onebook

“The Elephant in the Room” By Holly Goldberg Sloan

“The Elephant in the Room” by Holly Goldberg Sloan was selected for this community wide literacy initiative by the Committee to Promote Global Education with input from school and town librarians.

The book explores the importance of friendship, acceptance and the bravery we all must face when dealing with life’s changes. The main character is without her mother and through a counseling group and unlikely circumstances, leads to rescue an elephant where the community as a whole comes together proving that hope and friendships can occur in unlikely places.

Book Type: Fiction
Reading Age: 10-14
Pages: 256
Published: 2021



About the Committee to Promote Global Education

The Committee to Promote Global Education develops and implements strategies and programs to enhance student, staff and community understanding, appreciation, celebration and respect for the diversity within our school community, our nation and our world.

Areas of Impact:

- K-12 Curriculum/Instruction
- Professional Development
- Extracurricular Activities
- Recruitment, Hiring and Retention
- Community Relations

Objectives:

- Research and implement curricular approaches to integrate the teaching of global concepts across subject areas and grade levels
- Promote school-sponsored activities that foster a culture of engagement and global awareness for students, families and staff from all backgrounds
- Examine policies to promote the inclusion of all students, staff and families in school district activities
- Develop strategies to ensure culturally responsive teaching in all classrooms

Members on the Committee to Promote Global Education

- Jeffrey Simons, Superintendent of Schools (chair)
- Marissa Cannon, Director of Human Resources
- Jennifer Carraher, ENL Teacher
- Emily Cooke, Science Teacher
- Felice Devine, Library Media Specialist
- Leanne Dietrich, Speech Teacher
- John Dunn, Board of Education Member
- Patty Farnan, Assistant Principal
- Renee Fields, Special Education Teacher
- Maria Fontaine, Social Worker
- Wayne Grignon, Principal
- Michelle Hall, ENL Teacher
- Michael Harkin, Principal
- Ryan Jones, Director of Athletics
- Siobhan Kennedy, Spanish Teacher
- Ida-Marie Lindberg, ENL Teacher
- Megan Lopez, Special Education Teacher
- Melanie Lyte, 1st Grade Teacher
- Rachel Mathis, ELA Teacher
- Wendy McAlonie, Social Studies Teacher
- Amy Morgan, Special Education Teacher
- Sarah Murawski, 5th Grade Teacher
- Sabine Murphy, ENL Teacher
- Michael Neumann, Assistant Principal
- Alysse Ouimet, Special Education Teacher
- Melanie Schmitt, Math Teacher
- Helen Squillace, Principal
- Roy Stiles, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
- Jamie Tobin, Library Media Specialist
- Jenna VanRoy, 2nd Grade Teacher
- Linda Wager, Director of Business and Finance