“Bringing people together is what I call ‘Ubuntu,’ which means ‘I am because we are.’ Far too often people think of themselves as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity.”

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu
We came from all corners of the world, from 20 countries and 54 schools... and representing countless dreamers, young and old, interested in building a better world for all.

We walked in the footsteps of the great liberators, Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, Albertina Sisulu, Mahatma Gandhi, Helen Suzman and many others, listening to their stories of liberation.

We met the people on the ground keeping this ideal of liberation alive through Phaphama... and were nourished by their hospitality, wisdom and welcome.

We were warmly welcomed into the Edmund Charism alive in education in South Africa. A story almost 120 years old but still vibrant and outreaching despite immense challenges.

We were challenged by the poverty surrounding us, but inspired by the way the Church responds to it compassionately and promoting the dignity of the human person.

We were invited into the ideal of Ubuntu by Rev Sidwell Mokgothu, and were moved by his life long quest to make South Africa hospitable to all people, regardless of race, class or creed.

We journeyed to every continent in the world, hearing and seeing the experience of Edmund Rice education as it is lived out at the grassroots.

We were invited by Yase Godlo into the vision of Nelson Mandela and were motivated to keep his legacy alive through our commitment to the Mandela Day project.

We were moved by the testimony of Dr Mosibudi Mangena, the challenges of imprisonment and exile and his lifelong commitment to freedom, empowerment and liberation for all.

We celebrated Eucharist together, aware of our solidarity with the wider Church and Jesus’ mission that is being articulated so powerfully at the moment by Pope Francis.

We imagined future gatherings, locally, regionally and globally, to keep this mission alive.

We wrestled with how to respond to the needs of our diverse network and the challenges of our world.

We developed the ideas to take us forward as we continue to grow a global network.

We committed to developing an education for transformation and liberation and including our wider communities in this vision.

Ubuntu - I am Because We Are
EREBB Lead School Priorities

As Lead Schools we commit to the vision of Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders and endeavour to live this through the following priorities:

1. TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION
   Working in partnership throughout the world to support quality and transformational education.
   As EREBB Lead Schools we will endeavour to:
   1. Connect classrooms through shared student curriculum projects focused on faith formation and justice education
   2. Develop twinning and tripling (and wider) partnerships between groups of schools globally that are mutually beneficial and promote solidarity
   3. Develop staff and student exchange programs
   4. Use our professional expertise and wisdom to support the educational development and capacity building of schools from the least resourced areas of the world

2. INSPIRING LEADERSHIP
   Forming leaders capable of inspiring communities to undertake this global mission.
   As EREBB Lead Schools we will endeavour to:
   1. Develop an EREBB Leadership Certificate that forms educators in the vision of EREBB and is accessible to people around the world
   2. Promote the EREBB Congress in Kolkata, India in 2016
3. ONE VOICE FOR JUSTICE

Being educational communities that are immersed in each other’s realities, striving to make justice, peace and human rights a global reality.

As EREBB Lead Schools we will endeavour to:

1. Celebrate the legacy of Nelson Mandela through participating in Mandela Day and engaging in social action initiatives
2. Promote advocacy for just causes and each year initiate a global human rights campaign in collaboration with ERI, ERA for Change, Nine is Mine and other like-minded groups
3. Develop immersion programs that enable us to experience the lived realities of other people, especially those made poor by unjust structures

4. EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Using available technologies to connect, gather and journey together.

As EREBB Lead Schools we will endeavour to:

1. Provide reliable internet access to all lead schools worldwide so that they can collaborate in EREBB initiatives
2. Link using available technologies and social media, particularly the EREBB website and twitter #EREBB
5. DEVELOPING OUR IDENTITY
Supporting each other in developing an Identity that reflects our shared ethos and Catholic Character while recognising our diversity.
As EREBB Lead Schools we will endeavour to:
1. Gather information about our schools and each region’s Identity and formation initiatives and programs
2. Share and learn from these initiatives and programs across borders to support each other in developing our Identity

6. FORMATION FOR MISSION
Providing opportunities for formation that nurtures a Gospel spirituality and challenges us to embrace a church of, with and for the poor.
As EREBB Lead Schools we will endeavour to:
1. Collectively celebrate the Edmund Rice Feast Day each year, particularly highlighting the many diverse and rich cultural expressions of the Charism around the world
2. Include all our communities around the world in our school's prayer life
WEB-BASED RESOURCES, PARTNERS AND IDEAS

Website: www.erebb.org   Twitter: #erebb   Email: info@erebb.org

If viewing off-line visit www.erebb.org to access the links below.

GLOBAL AND JUSTICE EDUCATION

- Mandela Day
- ERA for Change Advocacy Network
- Nine is Mine Advocacy Network
- Caritas Advocacy Campaigns
- Caritas e incidencia
- Global Dimension ... the World in your classroom
- Global Goals - World's Largest Lesson

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

- Building Successful School Partnerships
- Connecting Classrooms – Schools Online
  (only available for UK schools connecting with others - but very good ideas)

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- The Global Goals for Sustainable Development
- UNESCO Teaching and Learning for All
- Global Partnership for Education

PARTNERS

- Edmund Rice International
- Edmund Rice Network
- Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia)
- Edmund Rice Development

SPIRITUALITY

- Edmund Rice Prayers
- Faith and Justice NCR

EDMUND RICE SCHOOLS GLOBALLY

- Zambia
- Southern Africa
- South America
- Sierra Leone
- Northern Ireland
- North America
- New Zealand
- Liberia
- Ireland
- India
- Ghana
- England
- East Africa
- Australia
“Never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity” Pope Francis