

PROCEDURE

Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification for Indigenous Students

Cross References:

Policies:

318, Privacy and Information Management
315, Voluntary & Confidential Self-Identification for First Nation, Metis, & Inuit
Students
502, Native Education Advisory Council

Adopted: October 2011
Implementation Date: October 2011
Updated: October 9, 2018

Respectfully submitted by;
Jack McMaster, Director of Education

Policy Rationale

The learning aspirations and potentials of Indigenous students can be realized through a responsive, transparent and accountable policy that focuses on improved programs and services and builds on strong partnerships with Indigenous parents and their communities. Student achievement data needs to be collected and aggregated related to the performance of Indigenous students. This is to determine whether programs currently delivered offer similar opportunities for success as for other students. Continued data collection and analysis will provide information for future decision-making surrounding Indigenous student success.

Objectives

- a) To provide high quality learning opportunities that are responsive, flexible, and accessible to the learner
- b) To continue to set high expectations for learner achievement in supported learning environments
- c) To improve EQAO (Education Quality & Accountability Office) test scores for Indigenous students
- d) To improve the retention rate of Indigenous students
- e) To increase the graduation rates of Indigenous students
- f) To ensure that learners are well-prepared for participation in post-secondary studies and the world of work
- g) To promote effective, respectful working relationships and partnerships with Indigenous parents and the general Indigenous community

Definitions

- a) Aboriginal identification refers to the definition in the Constitution Act, 1982, Section 35(2) in that “Aboriginal peoples” include “Indian, Inuit, and Métis.
- b) The identification used by the KPDSB will disaggregate for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis.

Procedures

- a) The Superintendents of Education will ensure that Principals are encouraged annually to promote completion of Self-Identification documents.
- b) Principals will ensure that office staff responsible for registering new students will promote the Voluntary Self-Identification portion of the registration form.

- c) Office staff will provide rationale as to why we collect the data. This provision can occur verbally or with the provision of the Count Me In (Self-Identification brochure).
- d) Data from Self-Identification will be entered into Trillium along with other registration information.
- e) Self-Identification data will be used in aggregate form and will be communicated through appropriate mechanism to the broader public as to the use of data and progress on achievement. Information will be managed in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.
- f) Information will be communicated to EQAO and the Ministry of Education for reporting purposes of the province and will be protected as outlined in Section 8.1 of the Education Act.
- g) A review of the percentage of Self-Identified students will be performed annually and a decision to promote self-identification will be made to ensure accuracy of the policy.