



ALGONQUIN AND LAKESHORE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

ABORIGINAL VOLUNTARY, CONFIDENTIAL SELF-IDENTIFICATION

Rationale

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board is committed to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to achieve to their highest potential, both in school and in later life. Fulfilling this commitment requires recognition that effective strategies must be developed to meet the particular educational needs of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students in ALCDSB schools.

Guiding Principles

- Parents or guardians of students under the age of 18 and students 18 years of age or older will have the opportunity to voluntarily self-identify as being of Aboriginal ancestry, including being of First Nation, First Nation Tuition, Métis, or Inuit background.
- Self-identification must be initiated by the parents or guardians of students under the age of 18 and students 18 years of age or older for each individual student. School staff must receive written direction prior to entering information into student records and be sensitive to the fact that some students, even siblings in the same home may or may not choose to be identified as having Aboriginal heritage.
- This procedure applies to students with any degree of Aboriginal ancestry and no proof of ancestry is required.
- Individual student achievement data will be protected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.
- Aggregate data collection and analyses will provide information for future programming and decision-making related to Aboriginal student success.
- The self-identification process is one component of a larger initiative the objective of which is to provide resources and learning opportunities to enable all students to gain knowledge and appreciation of contemporary and traditional First Nation, Métis, and Inuit traditions, cultures and perspectives, in alignment with the tenets of our Catholic Faith.

References

Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board Mission Statement
Ontario First Nations, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework (2007)
Building Bridges to Success for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students – Developing Policies for
Voluntary, Confidential Aboriginal Student Self-Identification: Successful Practices for Ontario School
Boards, 2007
The Education Act
The Ontario Human Rights Code
Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)
Race and Ethnocultural Relations Policy, 2001-04-6
Management of Student Information Policy Statement, S-2008-04-2
Access to Pupil Information S-2008-04-2

Administrative Procedures

Aboriginal Voluntary, Confidential Self-Identification (from Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Policy Network)

Approved: May 26, 2009