

# SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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<i>Section</i>	SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS	
<i>Policy Name</i>	VOLUNTARY ABORIGINAL STUDENT SELF-IDENTIFICATION	527
<i>Board Approved: February 20, 2013 April 25, 2006</i>	<i>Reviewed: February 5, 2013 May 1, 2012 September 26, 2011</i>	<i>Review By: December 2018</i>

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## **POLICY**

It is the policy of the Superior-Greenstone District School Board to provide the opportunity for all Aboriginal students and their parents and guardians to voluntarily self-identify as being First Nations, Metis, or Inuit.

## **RATIONALE**

The Superior-Greenstone District School Board believes the learning aspirations and potentials of Aboriginal students can be realized through a responsive, transparent and accountable policy that focuses on improved programs and services and builds on strong partnerships with Aboriginal parents and guardians, and their communities.

It is essential to understand our student population and have accurate student achievement data within Superior-Greenstone District School Board to improve success for all students. In accordance with the Ministry of Education's Aboriginal Policy Framework, accurate student achievement data needs to be collected to assess progress towards the goals of improving Aboriginal student achievement and closing the gap in academic achievement between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students. Continued data collection and analysis will provide information for improvement planning and decision-making surrounding student success.

## **PROCEDURES**

### **1.0 Implementation**

- 1.1 Voluntary self-identification will be collected annually on Student Verification Forms for all elementary and secondary students enrolled with the Superior-Greenstone District School Board as of the 2005-2006 school year.
- 1.2 Voluntary self-identification will be collected on the Superior-Greenstone District School Board Registration Form for all new elementary and secondary students enrolled with the Board as of the 2006-2007 school year.

### **2.0 Guidelines**

Programmes will be evaluated regularly based on their:

- Transparency
- Inclusion
- Innovation
- Learner-centeredness
- Equitability

- Responsiveness
- Collaboration
- Respect for individual privacy and dignity
- Results
- Acknowledgement and reflection of cultural diversity
- Contribution to the knowledge base through research

### **3.0 Accountability**

- Provide high quality learning opportunities that are responsive, flexible and accessible to Aboriginal students
- Increase the retention rate of all students
- Increase the graduation rates of all students
- Ensure that all students are well prepared for participation in post-secondary studies and the world of work
- Promote effective, respectful working relationships and partnerships with Aboriginal parents and the general Aboriginal community

### **4.0 Data Collection, Storage, Access and Usage or Security Protocol**

All data will be securely stored to respect privacy and used only as a means to enhance Aboriginal education programmes within the Superior-Greenstone District School Board.

- 4.1 Data will be treated in the same manner as Ontario Student Records and protected and governed by the Freedom of Information Act.
- 4.2 The information gathered will be shared with educational organizations (e.g. Ministry of Education, EQAO for the purpose of developing supportive programs.

### **5.0 Timeline**

The data collected as a result of this policy will be evaluated on an annual basis and the results reported to the Superior-Greenstone District School Board First Nation Advisory Committee. The policy will be reviewed as required by the policy review committee of Superior-Greenstone District School Board for its effectiveness.