

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Section SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

Policy Name VOLUNTARY ABORIGINAL STUDENT SELF-IDENTIFICATION

527

Board Approved: April 25, 2006

Review Prior To: September 2011

POLICY

It is the policy of the Superior-Greenstone District School Board to provide the opportunity for all Aboriginal students and their parents to voluntarily self-identify so that they may receive supportive programming.

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 their communities. Student's achievement data needs to be collected and aggregated related to performance of Aboriginal 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 Aboriginal student success.

PROCEDURES

1.0 Implementation

- 1.1 Self-identification will be collected on Student Update Forms for all students enrolled with the Superior-Greenstone District School Board as of the 2005-2006 school year.
- 1.2 Self-identification will be collected on the Superior-Greenstone District School Board Form for all new students enrolled with the Board beginning the 2006-2007 school year.

2.0 Guidelines

- 2.1 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
- Superior-Greenstone District School Board Policy No. 527

2.2 Aboriginal education programs developed will:

- Provide high quality learning opportunities that are responsive, flexible and accessible to Aboriginal students
- Increase the retention rate of Aboriginal students
- Increase the graduation rates of Aboriginal students
- Ensure that Aboriginal 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

2.3 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.

2.3.1 Data will be treated in the same manner as Ontario Student Records and protected and governed by the Freedom of Information Act.

2.3.2 Individual data will not be communicated. The information gathered will be used in the aggregate only and for the purpose of developing and implementing supportive programmes.

3.0 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 annually for its effectiveness and need for continuation.