

# REGULATIONS

<b>SUBJECT: Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification (First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students)</b>
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## Rationale

The learning, aspirations and potentials of Aboriginal students can be realized through a responsive, transparent and accountable process that focuses on improved services and supports and builds on strong partnerships with Aboriginal parents and their communities. The collection and analysis of student achievement data will be used to provide information about whether current programs and supports offer similar opportunities for success as for other students. Continued data collection and analysis will be used to guide future decisions regarding Aboriginal student success.

1. All families within the Lambton Kent District School Board will re-register for the 2008-09 school year. A letter mailed to every family with registration forms will request verification of all existing student information. There will be an opportunity in the completion of the form for parents or students age 18 or older to voluntarily self identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.
2. Self identification data will be collected on a voluntary basis for all future students enrolling with the Lambton Kent District School Board beginning the 2008-09 school year.
3. Data will be used only as a means of analysis and potential enhancement of program delivery within the Lambton Kent District School Board.
4. The data collected as a result of this Policy will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and the results reported annually to the Board.
5. Security Protocol
  - 5.1 All data will be securely stored to respect privacy and treated in the same manner as Ontario Student Records.
  - 5.2 Information gathered will be used in the aggregate for the sole purpose of enhancing student learning.

- 5.3 Individual data would be communicated only upon the request of a parent, guardian or student 18 years of age or older.
- 5.4 All data gathered is protected and governed by the Freedom of Information Act.

6. Role of the Native Advisory Committee

- 6.1 All data collected will be shared in the aggregate with the Native Advisory Committee and First Nations' education representatives.
- 6.2 The Native Advisory Committee will provide advice with respect to the determination, communication and use of collected data, including the planning of next steps as deemed necessary from the analysis of data.
- 6.3 The Board will invite First Nations representation on any committee established by the Board for the purpose of developing or reviewing curriculum specific to First Nations students.
- 6.4 The Board will work in conjunction with the Native Advisory Committee and First Nations education representatives in the planning, development and implementation of programs that focus on Native culture, language or history.
- 6.5 This Policy will be reviewed annually for its effectiveness and the need for its continuation.

Implementation Date: June 24, 2008

Reference: Policy