

Section:	Students and Instruction
Title:	Indigenous Students

The Board of Education recognizes the unique status of Indigenous students in the school and community. As such, it is expected that all formal district events will begin by acknowledging the traditional territory of the Sto:lo people, of Leq'á:mel, Semá:th, Máthxwi, Sq'éwlets and Qwó:ltl'el First Nations, stewards of this land since time immemorial.

Halq'eméylem is the language of this land and of Stó:lō ancestors. The place from where Halq'eméylem (Upriver dialect) originates is Leq'á:mel. The language comes from the land, and it has been this way since time immemorial.

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

In accordance with the Local Education Agreement:

- Communication with the First Nation community to maintain effective educational programs for Indigenous students will be through the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.
- The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee will include partners from the First Nations Rights Holders, parents and school district staff who will work together to guide and advise the development and progress of Indigenous education.

Learning Objectives

The objectives for Indigenous students are the same as those for other students:

- Accommodating learning styles that provide Indigenous students the opportunity to maximize their potential, graduate from high school and become lifelong learners.
- Educating Indigenous students in a manner by which they develop a strong understanding of who they are through effective role models.
- Providing Indigenous students the opportunity to learn about their culture and heritage in relation to the prescribed curriculum.

Programs and Support

- Indigenous students and their families will be supported by their school, community, and their families and by both school-based and district-based staff.
- Programs designed to support Indigenous students within the context of the curriculum will be designed by those knowledgeable in the culture and heritage.

Date Adopted: May 2001

Date Amended: October 2011 (formerly AP #200), December 2023

Definition:

- *Indigenous Student: Students who are of Indigenous ancestry, either status or non-status First Nations students, Inuit or Métis.*

*Legal Reference: BC Regulations 265/89, Section 14
Ministerial Order M147/89
School Act, Section 86(2)*