

THE HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SUBJECT:

ABORIGINAL SELF-IDENTIFICATION

3C:6



POLICY STATEMENT:

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board is committed to improved educational achievement for all students. It is the policy of the Board to provide the opportunity for all Aboriginal students and their parents to voluntarily self-identify so that supportive programming may be identified, developed, and implemented.

DEFINITIONS

Aboriginal: refers to the definition in the Constitution Act, 1982, Section 35(2), in that “Aboriginal peoples” include “Indian, Inuit and Métis”.

PROCEDURE:

1. A voluntary self-identification process will be implemented in the schools of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, beginning in the 2008-09 school year.
2. Self-Identification information will be collected through a voluntary process which enables parents to self-identify their children as Aboriginal, if they choose to do so.
3. Personal self-identification data will be treated confidentially, in the same manner as all information that is part of a student’s Ontario Student Record (OSR).
4. Aggregated self-identification data may be communicated, but personal individual data will not be communicated to any persons beyond those permitted by the OSR Guideline. The information gathered will be used only for the purpose of developing and implementing supportive programs, which may include:
 - Improving EQAO assessment results for Aboriginal students;
 - Increasing the retention rate/graduation rate of Aboriginal students;
 - Ensuring that Aboriginal students are well prepared for post-secondary education;
 - Promoting respectful working relationships and partnerships with Aboriginals within the broader community.

BOARD APPROVAL:

October 27, 2008

EFFECTIVE DATE:

October 28, 2008