



1. Rationale

Simcoe County District School Board respects and values the Board's practices related to 'Commit to Character' and the diverse teaching of Aboriginal communities.

Simcoe County District School Board recognizes that the learning aspirations and potentials of Aboriginal students can be realized through a responsive, transparent and accountable policy that results in improved programs and services. Co-operation among Aboriginal students, parents and their communities, First Nation Schools, Aboriginal governments and the Simcoe County District School Board will encourage the development of strong partnerships. Student achievement data will be collected and aggregated related to the performance of Aboriginal students. Data collection and analysis will provide information for future decision-making promoting Aboriginal student success.

2. Policy

Simcoe County District School Board is committed to providing programs that result in improved success for Aboriginal students. This policy establishes self-identification of Aboriginal students in order that student data may be collected and aggregated. All Aboriginal students have the right to voluntarily self-identify so that appropriate programs may be designed and delivered to improve educational outcomes.

3. Definition

The term *Aboriginal* includes First Nation, Métis or Inuit peoples.

4. Guidelines

The self-identification policy will adhere to the following as its guiding principles:

- transparency
- inclusiveness
- equity
- respectful of individual privacy, dignity and cultural diversity

5. Administrative Procedures

The Director of Education is authorized to establish procedures to implement this Policy.