

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

School District No. 42 lies within the traditional territory of the Katzie First Nation and the Kwantlen First Nation. The school district serves all Aboriginal students within the communities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows) was the third district in British Columbia to sign an Enhancement Agreement between the District, the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee and the Ministry of Education in 2000. The second agreement was signed on January 25th, 2006 to be in effect from July 1st, 2005 to June 30th, 2010. The 2010 school year will mark the beginning of the third Enhancement Agreement. The purposes of this agreement are to:

- facilitate excellence and the success of all Aboriginal learners at all grade levels.
- promote the importance of cultural education in order to increase the academic and social success of Aboriginal students.
- meet the needs of Aboriginal learners by maintaining and expanding meaningful academic, trades and cultural programs where possible while providing the resources for success.
- continue to build relationships in our schools that are welcoming and supportive of Aboriginal children, their families and the Aboriginal community.

This agreement is the result of ongoing engagement by members of the Aboriginal community and School District No. 42 since the second year of the second Enhancement Agreement via regular advisory meetings, band meetings, staff meetings, and district meetings along with extensive personal and electronic communication. Over this period of time the Aboriginal student population in District No. 42 has increased each year as has representation on the Aboriginal Advisory Committee to include Aboriginal students, more Aboriginal parents, and Aboriginal community agencies and networks. The current aboriginal student population of School District No. 42 is approximately 1015 students.

Who is an Aboriginal Student? Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (status or non status), Métis or Inuit Ancestry. No documentation is required and the ancestry can go back several generations. If you know someone who is of aboriginal ancestry and they are not sure how to self-identify, please ask them to contact the Aboriginal Education office at 604-466-6265.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ABORIGINAL ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENT

GOAL 1:	<i>TO IMPROVE ABORIGINAL STUDENTS' SUCCESS IN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42</i>
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- Objective 1.1 Literacy: Improve reading and writing skills at all grade levels.
- Objective 1.2: Numeracy: Improve numeracy skills at all grade levels.
- Objective 1.3: Increase Grade to Grade Transition Rates.
- Objective 1.4: Increase Graduation and Successful School Completion Rates.

GOAL 2:	<i>TO IMPROVE ABORIGINAL STUDENTS' SENSE OF BELONGING IN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42</i>
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- Objective 2.1: Enhance Aboriginal students' sense of belonging.
- Objective 2.2: Increase the knowledge of and respect for aboriginal culture and history for all students.

THE ABORIGINAL EDUCATION TEAM

Dr. Doug Hoey	Principal
Mrs. Carmen Brittain	Administrative Secretary
Mrs. Cathy Crook	Elementary Resource Teacher – West
Mrs. Marg MacGillivray	Elementary Resource Teacher – Central
Mrs. Romana Moore	Elementary Resource Teacher – East
Mrs. Annette McComb	Senior Aboriginal Support Worker
Mrs. Mandy Gauley	Aboriginal Youth Worker
Mr. Quentin Harris	Aboriginal Cultural Worker
Ms. Lisa Adair	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Sherri Britton	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Janna Dahlin	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Monique Duclos	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Mrs. Robbi Lamour	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Dawn Orłowski	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Anita Sandy	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Kate Thicke	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Kathleen Williamson	Elementary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Bev Charlie	Secondary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Ricky Jennings	Secondary Aboriginal Support Worker
Ms. Wendy Lawrence	Secondary Aboriginal Support Worker
Mrs. Corinna Miller	Secondary Aboriginal Support Worker
Mrs. Nathalie Piocza	Secondary Aboriginal Support Worker
Mrs. Patti Williams	Secondary Aboriginal Support Worker

Aboriginal Resource Teacher's Role

The three Aboriginal Education Support Teachers provide support which is additional to any other programs and services to which an Aboriginal student is eligible. They are district support teachers who:

- Provide itinerant direct service support to Aboriginal students (K-2) identified as being at risk in the areas of literacy or numeracy.
- Collaborate with classroom teachers (K-7), school-based support teachers and district support staff (speech and language, gifted, etc.) which may include providing Aboriginal resources to enhance the curriculum.
- Assist with student identification/early intervention and school based assessments.
- Assist in planning, adapting and implementing individual and group activities to build the students' self-esteem and academic success.
- Provide leadership and direction for Aboriginal Support Workers in order to foster educational success for all Aboriginal students.

Senior Aboriginal Support Worker's Role

The Senior Aboriginal Support Worker provides support to all ASW's. She also works with a number of students and families across the district with a particular focus on supporting students at-risk of not succeeding in a variety of areas working with the Keeping Kids in School District team.

Aboriginal Youth Worker's Role

The Aboriginal Youth Worker is a liaison between the school, the family and the community resource network. Her role is to support students and families dealing with issues that are interfering with success in school. She works with both elementary and secondary students and their families.

Aboriginal Cultural Worker's Role

The Cultural Worker provides classroom sessions, workshops and after school classes on a wide variety of aboriginal culture and history including:

- Directed Drawing.
- Individual or Group Painting and Carving
- Animal Mobiles and River of Salmon
- Button Blankets for all ages

All of these activities are hands-on and involve teachings about aboriginal culture and history.

Aboriginal Support Worker's Role (ASW)

The Aboriginal Support Workers (ASW's) play a very important role in the success of ALL Aboriginal students. They work in one, two, three and sometimes four schools depending on the Aboriginal student population and needs in each location. Consistent with the guidelines provided by the Ministry of Education, the support provided is additional to any other programs and services to which an Aboriginal student is already eligible. They help with the Aboriginal self-identification process in September and throughout the year. The Aboriginal Support Workers:

- Help to foster a sense of belonging.
- Offer academic support in and/or out of the classroom.
- Act as a liaison between home and school.
- Act as a cultural resource person.
- Provide information regarding opportunities for students of Aboriginal ancestry such as scholarships, employment, etc.