

SD42 PROCEDURE 9415.1

SANCTUARY SCHOOLS

PURPOSE

The Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all students and families who reside within the district, including those with precarious immigration status or no immigration status.

To uphold our commitment to providing educational opportunities for all students in the District, the District recognizes the importance of extending this to include students with precarious immigration status or no immigration status.

PROCEDURES

1. All school-age children who are ordinarily resident in the District, including those with precarious immigration status or no immigration status in Canada, are entitled to admission to school.
2. Personal information relating to a student or their family, including information regarding immigration status, shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed to federal immigration authorities or any other person or organization unless the disclosure is authorized or required by law.
3. The District and schools shall collect only the personal information necessary to establish a student's eligibility for enrolment and to meet applicable legal and Ministry requirements. Immigration status information shall not be requested or collected unless necessary for an authorized purpose.
4. The District shall collect, use, access, retain, safeguard and disclose personal information in accordance with the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#) (FIPPA) and other applicable legislation. Requests for student or family information from law enforcement, immigration authorities or other external parties shall be referred to the appropriate District administrator or privacy officer.
5. Federal immigration authorities, including the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), shall not be permitted to enter schools or District facilities unless authorized or required by law. Any request to enter a school or District facility for immigration enforcement purposes shall be referred to the appropriate District administrator.
6. Where there is a need to verify a student's name, home address or date of arrival in Canada, and the usual supporting documentation is not available, the District and schools will accept a combination of tenancy agreements, utility bills and/or letters from lawyers, medical doctors, religious and community leaders and others confirming their personal knowledge that the student is ordinarily resident in the District.
7. Schools will continue to comply with current Ministry of Education and Child Care requirements in the case of students for whom English Language Learning funding claims are made, while limiting the collection, use and disclosure of students' personal information to that which is authorized or required by law.

APPROVED: October 1, 2026