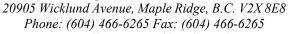
School District No. 42 Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows

Aboriginal Education







Dear Parents and Students,

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

We would like to introduce you to our Aboriginal Education department and explain what Self Identification is and how you can register your child. "Self-Identification of Aboriginal Ancestry" is an easy process that allows your child to access additional school supports from the Aboriginal Education Department. If you have First Nations, Metis, or Inuit ancestry anywhere in your family line this opportunity may be of interest to you.

Who Can Self-Identify as an Aboriginal Student?

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (status or non-status), Metis, or Inuit Ancestry. No documentation is required, and the ancestry can go back several generations.

Why Should I Self-Identify?

We encourage all students of First Nations, Metis, or Inuit Ancestry to complete a Self-Identification form as this allows you to access various supports and programs during the school year. These include academic supports, social/emotional supports, and cultural activities.

Some families are hesitant to self-identify because of negative past experiences, or because of concerns their child will be singled out or made to feel uncomfortable. We want to assure you we are sensitive to these views and will support your child in whatever way is most comfortable.

How do I Self-Identify?

There are 3 ways:

- 1. Fill out the form attached to this email and email or scan it to abed@sd42.ca
- Download a form from the Aboriginal Education web site: https://abed.sd42.ca/
 (The form is under the "parents tab")
- 3. Pick a form up from the office at the school your child will be attending.

You can return it to us by:

- 1. E-mail it to abed@sd42.ca
- 2. Fax it to 604-466-6265
- 3. Return it to the school your student is/will be attending

Kirsten Urdahl-Serr, Principal of Aboriginal Education: Phone: 604-466-6265

Email: Kirsten_Urdahl-Serr@sd42.ca

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20905 Wicklund Avenue, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 8E8 Phone: (604) 466-6265 Fax: (604) 466-6265 http://schools.sd42.ca/abed/



Questions?

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Will my child be pulled out of class for extra supports?

When we take students from class for support it is done in alignment with existing support plans that have been developed by either the classroom teacher or the school-based support team. You can request that your child remains in class for additional support.

Some programs such as Grade 6 IGNITE Camp, Student Leadership, and visits to postsecondary institutions require students to miss class. These types of activities require signed field trip permission forms, so your child will participate only if you agree.

What types of support are available?

Aboriginal Education supports can take the form of additional academic support, field trips or activity camps, or visits to post-secondary institutions. We also offer cultural programs and activities in some schools. Often, the Aboriginal Education staff are simply another adult who is "looking out" for your child; someone to make a positive connection; someone to "be there" if your child wants to talk or get help with anything.

In Secondary Schools, we track all Aboriginal student progress for Grades 8-12 and we do our best to make sure each student is on track to graduate. If any students require additional supports, we either provide them directly or we work with other school support staff to ensure students receive the help they need.

Each year we host the Aboriginal Achievement Awards. These are held for students in Grades 10-12 and are in addition to school-based Awards ceremonies. At this event we recognize student achievement in Grades 10-12, with a special recognition of our graduating students.

Can I self-identify and choose to not receive extra supports

In some cases parents and students choose to self-identify, but do not want us to provide additional supports. Our funding regulations require us to maintain regular contact with all students who have self-identified; however, this contact does not have to be in the form of specific academic supports. Our goal is to work with parents and students to determine the type and amount of support and/or contact that is comfortable and useful for each student. Some of our supports might include: monitoring attendance and academic progress, special events or field trips that might be of interest, or simply checking in with your child.

How can I find out who the Aboriginal Education staff members are at my child's school? You can ask at the school office, check on the Aboriginal Education website, or call us at the Aboriginal Education office (604-466-6265)

Who do I contact with other questions?

Please contact Kirsten Urdahl-Serr by email at <u>Kirsten_Urdahl-Serr@sd42.ca</u> or by phone at 604-466-6265



School District No. 42 Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows Aboriginal Education

Phone: (604) 466-6265 Fax: (604) 466-6265 Aboriginal Education Self Identification Form



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 other than this self- identification is required and the ancestry can go back several generations.

I	Parent/Guardian Cons	sultatior	n	
Student's Legal Name: Non -Status: Status:	Métis		Birth Date:// /// // // // // // // // // //	<u> </u>
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Home Phone #:	Work	Phone #:_		
Cell #:	E-ma	il:		
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 Home-School Liaison/Suppo Leadership Opportunities Gra Course Selection/Credit deve Cultural events/presentations Graduation/Scholarship/Burs Other Request: 	nde 6-12 lopment ary /Post-Secondary Inform	nation	 Academic Support Student Advocacy Development of Sense of F Ancestral Pride Post-Secondary Information 	
Act (FIPPA) and pursuant to School and 5700.2. The information will be Aboriginal Education Programs/Serv the personal information collected place. I, as the parent or legal guard of the personal information in Ancestry (First Nations, Meti	District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – I used by the School District for trices to students. If you have any ease email privacy@sd42.ca. Lian of this student, give included in this form. I acts or Inuit) and I am awar	Pitt Meadow the purposes y questions of my conser cknowled	the Freedom of Information and Protection ws) Board Policy 5700 and Board Procedur s of offering, delivering, and/or administeri or concerns about the collection, use or dis ent to the collection, use and disc lige that my child is of Aboriginal programs and services available	es 5700.1 ng closure of
through the Aboriginal Educa	J		(date signed)	
PARENTS/GUARDIANS: PI abed@sd42.c	LEASE RETURN THIS I	TO YOU	BY SCANNING OR EMAILING	
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For Office	e Use Only: (If consulta	tion is ot	ther than in person)	
Consultation via: Phone:	Email: Fa	x:	Other:	
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Staff signature			Date	