

Voluntary, Confidential First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Student Self-Identification Form

Self-identification is voluntary and will not require you to produce any documentation.

This form should be completed by parents, caregivers/guardians, or students age 18 or older:

Student's Full Name:

Birthdate: (YY/MM/DD)

School Student is Attending

Ontario Education Number (OEN) if known

I consider my child to be of First Nation (Status/Non-Status), Métis, or Inuit ancestry: Yes No

The categories that apply to my child are checked below:

- First Nation (Status/Non-Status)
 Métis
 Inuit

I acknowledge that personal data gathered under this policy will be in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) and the Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act (FIPPA).

Parent/guardian or student age 18 or older information:

Full Name (please print)

Signature

Date

Please return completed form to the office at your child's school.

How will this information be used?

Data collected will be used to achieve a high level of student achievement; reduce gaps in student achievement; and maintain high levels of public confidence.

Together we will develop and enhance educational programs and services within the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit community to:

- ◆ Improve achievement and success among First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students.
- ◆ Promote educational equity of access, opportunity and outcome for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students in the following areas:
 - Strength-based learning to promote self-esteem.
 - Improved rates of literacy and numeracy skills.
 - Increased retention and graduation rates.
 - Advancement to post-secondary studies that reflects all pathways.

Confidentiality will be respected and maintained.

All data will be securely stored to respect privacy and used only as a means to enhance First Nation, Métis, and Inuit education programs. This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA). Your information will be kept strictly confidential. Individual data will not be communicated.

Contact Information:

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Jenny Kay Dupuis

Aboriginal Community Liaison
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
905-527-5092, ext. 2464
jenny.dupuis@hwdsb.on.ca.



Aboriginal Self-Identification

Voluntary, Confidential First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Student Self-Identification Information for Families



Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) is committed to delivering safe and inclusive programs and services that support achievement, engagement, and equity by addressing the heritage, culture, and perspectives of the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

www.hwdsb.on.ca

ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

Let Your Voice Be Heard

Be Proud of Your Ancestry and Heritage

Parents, caregivers/guardians of Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) students, or students age 18 or older are encouraged to voluntarily and confidentially self-identify their First Nation (Status and Non-Status), Métis, or Inuit ancestry. Self-identification will enable HWDSB to determine programming and supports to increase First Nation, Métis, and Inuit student success and achievement.

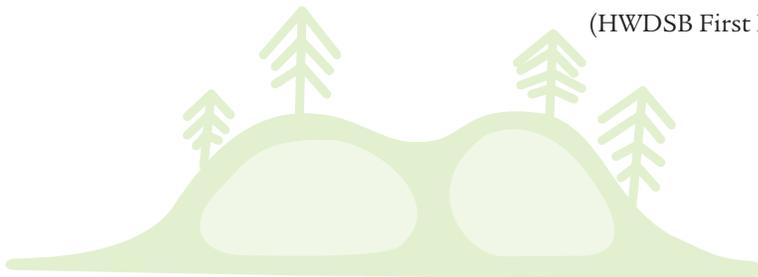
Committed to Supporting First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education

As a school board, we are committed to respecting the heritage and culture of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples, and recognize that meeting the needs of students requires a deep understanding of all cultural and historic experiences.

Our vision will continue to:

- Serve the needs of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students and in particular, to improve achievement levels among First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students.
- Engage with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students, parents, caregivers/guardians, and community to strengthen their voice and involvement in education.
- Ensure equity for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students.
- Work in partnership with the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit community to design and provide programs and services that foster the success of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit learners.
- Work in partnership with the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit community members (e.g. Elders) to provide a culturally relevant education that considers the parameters of protected knowledge.
- Work in partnership with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit community members to increase the knowledge and appreciation of contemporary and traditional First Nation, Métis, and Inuit traditions, cultures, and perspectives for all students, staff, and trustees.

(HWDSB First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy, 2012)



Why self-identify?

Through self-identification, you will assist us to provide reliable information on rates of enrolment, literacy, numeracy, graduation rates, and course completion.

Terms

Aboriginal Peoples – As stated in the Constitution Act, 1982, Section 35(2): “Aboriginal peoples include First Nation, Metis, and Inuit peoples of Canada.”

These are three separate peoples with unique heritages, languages, cultural practices, and spiritual beliefs.

First Nation: “First Nation” includes both Status/ Non-Status peoples.

Status: refers to peoples registered under the Indian Act of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, formerly known as Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada (INAC).

Non-Status: refers to peoples who can identify where their ancestral lands are (First Nation or reserve community), who are not registered under the Indian Act of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, due to ineligible registry requirements, or who have not applied for their status.

Métis: refers to a person who self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation ancestry, and is accepted by the Métis Nation.

Inuit: refers to a distinct group of Aboriginal people in Northern Canada, who live mostly in Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec, and Northern Labrador. The word means “people” in the Inuit language – Inuktitut. The singular of Inuit is Inuk.