

MULTICULTURAL RECOGNITION

Background

The District supports equitable access to education for all learners, while honouring the diversity that each learner contributes to our society.

As outlined in the *School Act*, school-age residents are entitled to enroll in District schools. Therefore, the District commits to the following statements outlined within the *School Act's* preamble:

...it is the goal of a democratic society to ensure that all its members receive an education that enables them to become literate, personally fulfilled and publicly useful, thereby increasing the strength and contributions to the health and stability of that society;

...the purpose of the British Columbia school system is to enable all learners to become literate, to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to contribute to a healthy, democratic and pluralistic society and a prosperous and sustainable economy.

We, School District No. 57 (Prince George), are guided by the following statements:

- We believe in the equitable participation and appreciation of the contributions of all learners;
- We promote understanding, acceptance, dignity, mutual respect and inclusion, in order to make our school communities equitable for all learners; and,
- We provide high quality education to all learners in a setting that is most enabling and least restrictive.

Procedures

Aligned to the Ministry of Education's Diversity in B.C. Schools policy, School District No. 57 (Prince George) provides conditions that foster success for all students, as follows:

1. All members of the District shall provide equitable access to and equitable participation in quality education for all learners;
2. All members of the District shall enable District and school cultures that value diversity and respond to the diverse social and cultural needs of the communities it serves;
3. All members of the District will strive to advance quality education for all Indigenous students in order to improve the success of Indigenous students and equitable achievement results;
4. All members of the District shall regard accommodation of Indigenous culture and identity as a core responsibility in order to transform the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canadian society;

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5. All members of the District shall ensure that school cultures promote understanding of others and respect for all;
6. All members of the District shall provide learning and working environments that are safe and welcoming, and free from discrimination, harassment and violence;
7. All members of the District shall ensure fair decision-making processes that give a voice to all members of the school community; and,
8. All members of the District shall ensure that policies and practices promote fair and equitable treatment of all learners.

Reference: *School Act*, Sections 17, 20, 22, 65 and 85

Human Rights Code, RSBC 1996

Multiculturalism Act, RSBC 1996

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Constitution Act, 1982

Policy 23 Anti-Racism, Anti-Discrimination and Cultural Safety

Policy 24 Indigenous Racial Reconciliation

Related Administrative Procedure:

170 Anti-Racism, Anti-Discrimination, Cultural Safety and Indigenous Racial Reconciliation