

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Superintendent's Monitoring Report**

Policy Name	Wabanaki Education		
Policy Number	ASD-W-ER 11	Number of Reports per year	1
Policy	The District Education Council acknowledges that the majority of ASD-West is situated on unseeded and unsurrendered Wolastoqey territory. ASD-West provides and fosters opportunities for students, teachers, administrators, and DEC members to learn about the significance of Wabanaki peoples in New Brunswick.		
Date of Report	December 9, 2021		
Date of Previous Report (s) This School Year	N/A		
Date of Future Report (s) This School Year	N/A		
Report Filed by:	David McTimoney, Superintendent		
Report Supported by:	Sarah Francis, First Nations Education Coordinator Susan Young, Data and Accountability Supervisor		
<u>Interpretation:</u>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The policy states that the District and Council recognize the historic significance of the land which makes up much of Anglophone West Schol District along Wolastoq. There is an acknowledgement that Wabanaki peoples were here first and never relinquished this land to European settlers upon arrival hundreds of years ago.The policy calls for all students and staff in ASD-W to learn more about this important history and ensure we understand the significance of the Wabanaki peoples in our province, both historically and in the present day.			

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with First Nations Communities, First Nations organizations, and staff from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) and school district will help enhance the education of Indigenous students, meeting their needs with educational opportunities. It is the expectation that all students in ASD-W will benefit from meaningful, well-planned lessons that will increase the knowledge with respect to factual Canadian and New Brunswick history. • Learning is strengthened for all when Wabanaki perspectives are integrated in classroom activities and the school environment. Likewise, Indigenous student learning styles, language, and culture are all important considerations for teachers and staff when focusing on student learning. Data is gathered to help inform decisions in support of improving achievement levels for Wolastoqi and Indigenous students. • Opportunities are made available for the ASD-W student and staff community to recognize and celebrate the history, culture, and contemporary issues of Wabanaki peoples. • Knowing that parental engagement can be of benefit to student learning, ASD-W looks for opportunities to welcome Indigenous parents and guardians into the schools and system and tries to involve them in educational matters pertaining to their children. 	
<p><u>Justification:</u></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Education Acts {Section 7} outlines the responsibility to respond to the needs of Indigenous students and foster an understanding of their history and culture. • Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action (in particular numbers 62 to 65) is an important source of guidance for all. • The New Brunswick Enhanced First Nation Education Programs and Services Agreement is a contract between the Communities, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and the School District that provides for the enhancement of educational services and opportunities for Indigenous students in our school system. • Everyone at their best: Province of New Brunswick 10 Year Education Plan, Objective #6 focus on Indigenous education. • District Plan for ASD-W 2021- 2022 – Priorities of Teachings & Learning and Well-being & Social Emotional Learning for all are key priorities for all students. 	

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Compliance:

- **There are six Enhanced First Nation Education Programs and Services committees, one for each Community in ASD-W. The committee includes the Chief, First Nation Director of Education, First Nations Education Coordinator from ASD-W, Director of Finance and Administration from ASD-W and the Superintendent. The committees review proposals and invests in educational supports to enhance learning for nominal role First Nation students and others who may benefit. Formal reports are generated each year to account for the work under the terms of the Enhancement Agreement. One report is generated for the province to be presented in the legislature, one report is generated for the district to be shared with DEC and an individual report is generated for each community to be shared with Chief and Council. There is a nominal role that is taken twice per year to inform financial decisions with respect to funding of the agreement. School education plans are also an important part of the process.**

- **There is one First Nations Education Coordinator and two First Nations Education Leads that work within the ASD-W district plan of establishment. The coordinator and leads support all 69 schools in the district with First Nations education strategies and cultural practices. They make strong connections with schools who serve students that live within Wolastoqey Communities as well as all Indigenous youth in our district.**

- **The coordinator participates in provincial collaboration on First Nations topics of significance, communication with First Nations Communities, Enhancement meetings, NEAT meetings, Jordan’s Principle, and professional learning. The coordinator works closely with enhancement staff members as well. They are, at times, the connection between families and schools.**

- **Under the role of First Nations Education Lead, the lead provides language and cultural support to all schools in ASD-W. This includes supporting the middle and high school Wolastoqey Latuwewakon courses as well as Indigenous youth who do not have access to these courses in their schools. Furthermore, models of language and cultural lessons are shared for educators to use in their classrooms.**

- **The First Nations Education Leads provide guidance for all teachers on centralizing Wabanaki education in their classrooms and schools. They model lessons in classes and work with teachers one on one to debrief on appropriate next steps. They provide teachers learning materials created by the First Nations Education team and create a safe space for asking questions. The focus for 2021 – 2022 is on lessons surrounding Wolastoqey terminology, the importance of traditional names, and Treaty Education.**

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Carrier/Knowledge Keeper working with all Wolastoqey Latuwewakon & Indigenous studies teachers to support best practices for lesson planning, assessment, and programming. They also share knowledge with staff and students across ASD-W to enhance First Nations education learning. • Three Nations Education Group, Inc (TNEGI) is an organization that supports First Nations education in our district and the province. There are supports in professional learning, education support services, research, and assessment. • Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc. (WTCI) is a not-for-profit organization whose role is to provide capacity building opportunities for its member communities within the traditional Wolastoqey territory in New Brunswick. This partnership will provide professional learning specific to First Nations education, networking opportunities for Enhancement staff, and the opportunity to celebrate and recognize success in Wolastoqey education. • There are recognition activities that occur throughout the district that include but are not limited to: traditional dancing and drumming, Sharing Circles, Orange Shirt Day - National Day of Truth & Reconciliation, Indigenous Peoples Day, Wolastoq Song shared in the mornings at schools and Spirit Bear. • Three schools traditionally hold parent teacher interviews for First Nation students in the community as opposed to in the school. When circumstances permit, there are also activities that engage the community, such as an Elder’s Tea, school powwows, Remembrance Day Ceremonies, Water Walk, transition activities, and inviting guest speakers from communities. Enhancement support staff provide a pivotal link between schools and families in Communities. • Many Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Language carriers have connected with schools across ASD-W. They have shared teachings about Sacred medicines, Treaty rights, Wolastoqey Nation, Wolastoq, Residential schools and ceremonies. Through a Facebook page called Indigenous Storytelling, Indigenous storytellers have shared legends, storybooks, creation stories, as well as personal stories with a live audience. Since January 2021, this page has reached thousands of viewers and has over a thousand followers. • Subject/Education Coordinators and Leads/Coaches within ASD-W collaborate to centralize First Nations education in all curricular areas. Important collaborations for 2021 include initiatives such as, enhancing high school English Language Arts curriculum by increasing First Nations perspectives and voices, embedding First Nations lessons into the K-2 exploration block, holding a professional learning 	

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<p>opportunity for educators to appropriately incorporate Traditional Indigenous Games into the Physical Education curriculum, increasing access to First Nations Education for French Immersion learners by creating French content specific to Wabanaki peoples and by vetting French resources, using technology tools to enhance language and cultural teachings and improve assessment practices through the changes from in-person to home learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teachings continue to be shared with those who work within ASD-W but outside of school buildings. For example, ASD-W district staff were invited to the live event called “Remembering Every Child Matters” in response to the first discovery of Indigenous children at Kamloops Indian Residential School. Staff were also included in Orange Shirt Day teachings and honoured National Day of Truth and Reconciliation by learning about Wolastoq and listening to Wolastoq honour song, followed by a moment of silence.• With the support of a DEC motion, the Superintendent has invited all schools to replace the National Anthem with the Wolastoq honour song once per week.	

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Appendices:

- **A - ASD-W Enhancement Agreement Report**
- **B - Education Act, Section 7**
- **C - Truth and Reconciliation Report and Calls to Action**
- **D - Everyone at their best: Province of New Brunswick, 10 Year Education Plan**

Compliance: I report compliance with this policy.

Superintendent's Signature: _____
DEC Chair Signature: _____
Date: _____