

SNCD SB - Parent/Guardian & Community Engagement



Colleen Sheriff - Indigenous Education Lead

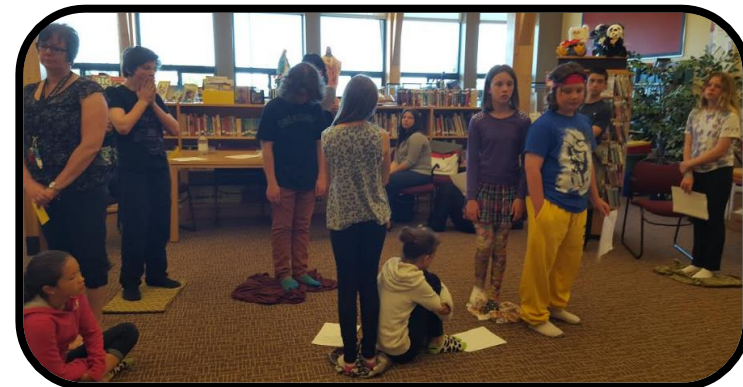
Commitment

Commitment to Indigenous Education

- Developed and implemented an Indigenous Education Pillar for BIPSA/SIPSA
- Include community voice, sharing and participation
 - IEAC, CPIC, school council and school participation in community events

Initiated and continue to foster board wide staff training on

- Cultural Sensitivity
- Indigenous history, tradition and culture
- Indigenous Professional Development Day (annual - Nov 2016, Oct 2017 & May 2019)



Cultural Sensitivity

Walk a Mile Film Project (City of Thunder Bay)

- Training provided to all staff & new hires
- Establishing Empathy from Real Life Experiences
- Creating a learning curve for Educators, Principals and Students Grades 5-8
- Pre and Post Evaluations - Measuring acquired knowledge



Kairos Blanket Exercise

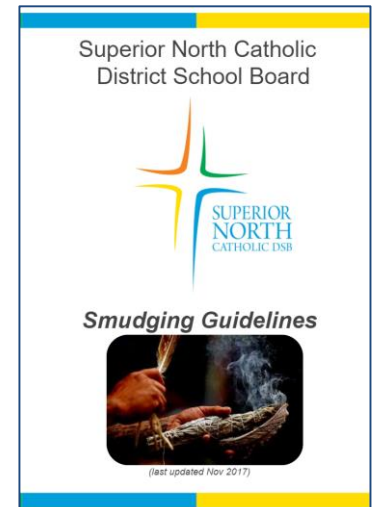
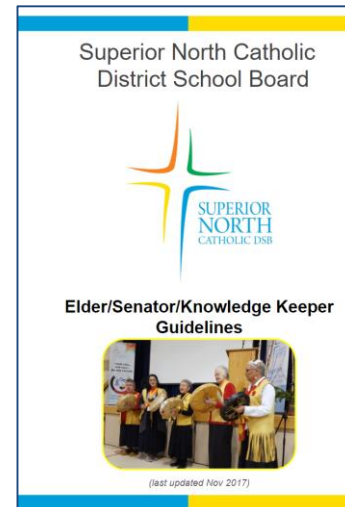
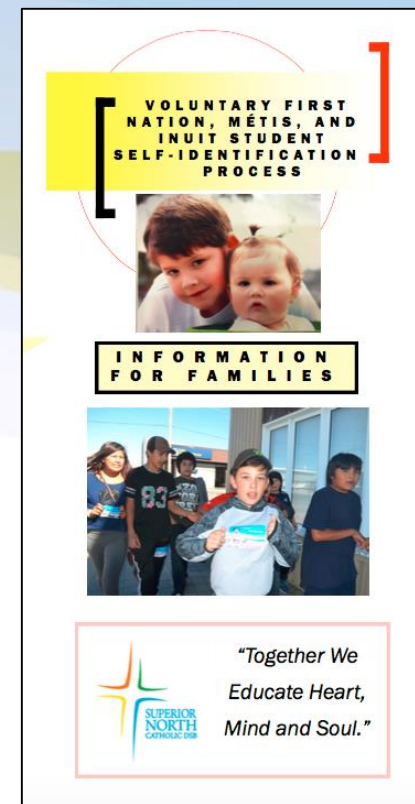
- *500 years of Canadian History in 1 hour*
- *Treaty Week, Parent Engagement Sessions (at schools), Experience Superior North, Lakehead University, and for Grades 5 to 8 (ongoing)*



Understanding

Developed and implemented guidelines within the schools and board office to coincide with traditional practices.

- Participation & Understanding
 - Smudging
 - Drumming
 - Community Events - celebrations, feasts and honouring
- Build Elders/Knowledge Keepers relationships
- Organize/visit regional traditional events
- Advocate for self-identification (First Nation, Métis & Inuit)



Annual Indigenous Education Professional Development

2016

2017



Your Call, Our Call - We Are Called



*I pledge my commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation
Commission of Canada: Calls to Action by...*

- ***Integrating age-appropriate lessons on residential schools, Treaties, and Indigenous peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada***
- ***Improving education attainment levels and success rates for all students***
- ***Supporting Indigenous languages***
- ***Enabling parents to fully participate in the education of their children***
- ***Respecting and honouring Treaty relationships***
- ***Building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect***

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (2015)
Education to Reconciliation - Sections 62-65



Truth and
Reconciliation
Commission of Canada

Community in the Classroom



Goals -

- Provide schools/teachers with the tools, resources, training and examples so that;
 - They will take initiative to involve communities and bring in Elder/Knowledge Keepers into the classroom
 - Build confidence to try new things
 - Build on authentic learning & experiential learning through community members in the 'classroom'
- Continue to connect with First Nation communities and families
 - Build relationships and develop collaboration
 - Share what is happening in classroom/school activities





In our schools...



**SUPERIOR
NORTH
CATHOLIC DSB**

Indigenous PD Day

Community in the Classroom

Results -

- Schools attending First Nation Communities - Cultural Events, Pow Wows, Health Fairs, Indigenous Peoples Day
- Attend Mass at First Nation Church
- NSL classes working directly with First Nation Bands
 - funding for projects - drum making materials, moccasin materials, classroom activities (trapping, goose hunt, feasts)
- Classroom teachers reaching out to parents/guardians, Community Organizations & Elders/Knowledge Keepers to come into the classroom



Community Connections



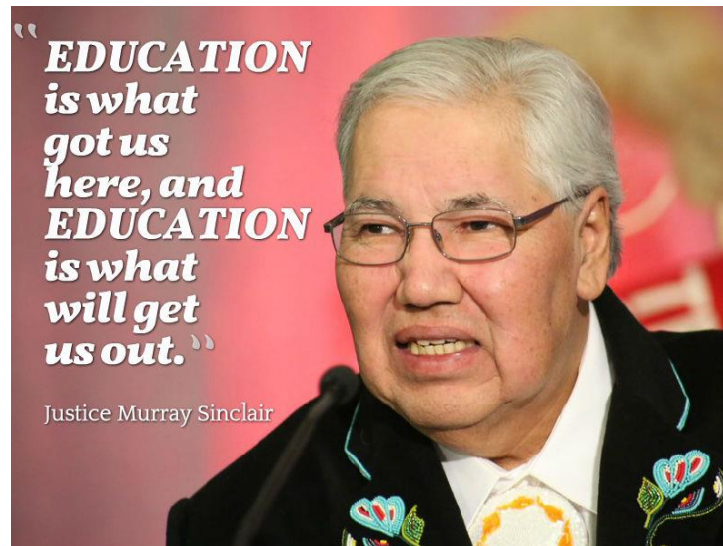
Engaging First Nation, Métis and Inuit members to enhance student achievement and well-being;

- IEAC meetings held at First Nation locations - include representation from each First Nation (either parent/guardian or council member/Elder)
- Parent Teacher night & Google Showcase held at First Nation - teacher going to the parent
- Connecting parents/guardians with IEAC, CPIC, local school Parent Council & school events
- Presentation to Chief and Council - attendance, EQAO, report card
- Inviting Community & First Nation Chief and Council to Indigenous PD, Experience Superior North and other school events
- Community organizations (Dilico, Thunderbird Friendship Centre, Métis Nation of Ontario) providing presentations & activities



Next Steps/Ongoing

- Expand IEAC, CPIC and School Councils
- Chief & Council presentations
- Community & parent presentations
- Recognizing & Honouring Indigenous Days (Orange Shirt Day, Treaty Week, Indigenous Peoples Day, Louis Riel Day and so forth)
- Training for staff - NSL PLC, Indigenous Education PD
- Experiential Learning/Land-based Learning



Thank you!

Miigwech!

Qujannamiik!

Merci!

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