



Date: September 27, 2023 **Agenda Item:** 7.4

To: Board of Trustees

From: Shawna Warren, Superintendent

Originator(s): Shannon Requa, Director of Education Planning
Jonathan Konrad, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

Governance Policy: [Policy 700 - Superintendent of Schools](#)

Additional Reference: [Policy 110 - Welcoming Inclusive, Safe and Healthy Environments](#)
[Indigenous Education Hub](#)
[National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

Assurance Domain: Student Growth & Achievement
Teaching & Leading
Learning Supports
Local & Societal Context

Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard (SLQS)
SLQS Competencies ([SLQS](#) / [Board Policy 700](#)):
Building Effective Relationships
Visionary Leadership
Ensuring First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education for All Students

Subject: **Indigenous Education & Student Success**

Purpose:
For information

Background:

National Truth and Reconciliation Week, Orange Shirt Day and Supporting Activities:

From September 25th to 29th, all Sturgeon Public students will have the opportunity to engage in activities which acknowledge the histories and legacies of residential schools and honour the survivors, their families and communities.

- Division-wide daily activity guides created for elementary and secondary teachers. Includes vetted and linked resources and is intended as minimum expectations. Many sites are planning activities in addition to the division curated activities.
- Orange Shirt Day will be acknowledged throughout SPS on September 29th. Shirts designed and printed by Sturgeon Public students are available for Trustees, Senior

Executives, school administrators and central office staff. The Division will be expanding this program more broadly for next year.

- Artwork by Eugene Alexis (Alexis First Nation) will be hung permanently in every school site. All administrators participated in an immersive cultural workshop with the artist and selected a piece meaningful to their school community.
- Permanent Tipi was set up on September 18th, 2023, at Sturgeon Composite High School as an act of recognition and acknowledgement that we are on Treaty 6 territory as well as a gathering place and learning space for staff and students. Tipi was set up in partnership with Terry Littlechild (Maskwacis First Nation) and with support from honoured guests from Kipohtakaw Education Center Leadership (Alexander First Nation).
- Treaty 6 and Métis Nation Flags are to be flown permanently at Frank Robinson Education Center.

Strategic Planning For 2023-2024

Building on the foundational work laid out in the past, the team continues to build a strategic plan designed to support holistic student success and division-wide knowledge. By incorporating key strategies and regularly tracking measurable data, Sturgeon Public Schools can effectively measure progress toward improved Indigenous student success, safe and caring school environments and increased authentic Indigenous representation in learning environments. Rooted within the plan are professional learning opportunities offered in partnership with Indigenous community members, Indigenous scholars and Indigenous educators.

Key Strategies for 2023/2024:

1. Growing Local Community Partnerships and Intergenerational Connections:

Measurable Data:

- A number of partnerships and collaborations were formed with local Indigenous community members.
- Number of meaningful connections with Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
- Participation rates in cultural events and workshops.
- Regular meetings between KEC, Camilla, and Sturgeon Composite High School.
- Evidence of contributions to KEC/Alexander First Nation.

2. Strengthening Community and Family Engagement:

Measurable Data:

- Attendance and engagement at parent and family workshops and meetings.
- Development of Indigenous Parent Advisory Council.

- Collaborative initiatives and partnerships with local organizations and research projects.

3. Supporting Academic Success and Graduation:

Measurable Data:

- Improved academic performance, attendance, and graduation rates among Indigenous students.
- Positive feedback from Indigenous students, families, and community members through survey data and conversation.

4. Providing Individualized, Holistic Student Support:

- Indigenous Student Counsellor (hire in progress) in Camilla and Four Winds Schools
- Indigenous Student Success Coaches in SCHS, Redwater School, and Lilian Schick School
- Indigenous Student EAs in ÉMPS, Bon Accord, Ochre Park, LT, Namao, and Camilla schools

Measurable Data:

- Number of student touch points.
- Development of Indigenous Student Success Coach Year Plan (ISSC) Year Plan

5. Fostering Safe, Caring and Representative School Environments:

Measurable Data:

- Creation and usage rates of Indigenous Student Success Spaces in Schools.
- Evidence of Indigenous representation, art and literature in Schools.
- Feedback from Indigenous students including representation in learning within a safe and caring environment.

5. Creating Systemic Change:

Measurable Data:

- Number of staff participating in Division-wide PD (March 11, 2023) focusing on Teacher Quality Standard (TQS) and Leadership Quality Standard (LQS) 5; training teachers and staff on Indigenous history, culture, and ways of knowing.
- Number of staff participating in additional optional PD offerings
- Survey feedback from PD offerings
- Inclusion of Indigenous Student EAs, advisors from Alexander First Nation, and Indigenous scholars from the University of Alberta in the 2023/2024 Call to Action Cohort.
- Practice changes related to Indigenous education.

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the September 27, 2023, Public Board meeting.



Attachment(s):

1. Truth & Reconciliation Week (Elementary)
2. Truth & Reconciliation Week (Secondary)

TRUTH & RECONCILIATION WEEK

2023 (ELEMENTARY)

Monday

Choose an Indigenous read aloud for your class. Choose from this [booklist](#) or [digital library](#).

Tuesday

[Create a class land acknowledgement](#)

Wednesday

Focus on Truth
Watch/listen to First Nation, Métis and Inuit perspectives.

[K-3 Video](#)

[4-6 Video](#)

Thursday

Design an Orange Shirt
[Color Template](#) - [B&W Template](#)

Create a representation related to truth and reconciliation.

Friday

Wear an [orange shirt](#).

Find time to [reflect](#) on what you've learned this week about Residential Schools.

[More Week Long Resources from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)



National Centre for
Truth and Reconciliation

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

For additional resources visit our [website](#).



TRUTH & RECONCILIATION WEEK

2023 (SECONDARY)

Monday

Explore various Media

Tuesday

Create a class land acknowledgement

Wednesday

Focus on Truth

Watch/listen to survivors' stories

Thursday

Design an Orange Shirt
Color Template - B&W Template

Create a representation related to truth and reconciliation.

Friday

Reflection

Wear an Orange Shirt

More Week Long Resources from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation



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