



St. Clair Catholic
District School Board



Enclosure 13

Student Census

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Background

The government established a regulation under the Anti-Racism Act, 2017 to collect personal information in compliance with Anti-Racism Data Standards. Data Standards for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism, also known as Ontario's Anti-Racism Data Standards (Standards), were established to help identify and monitor systemic racism and racial disparities within public sectors including education, child welfare and justice.

The Standards establish consistent, effective practices for producing reliable information to support evidence-based decision making and public accountability to help eliminate systemic racism and promote racial equity. Mandatory data requirements under the Anti-Racism Act include Indigenous identity, Ethnic origin, Race and Religion. Additional categories consistent with the protected grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code include First Language, Status in Canada, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Socio-economic status and Disability.

Research tells us that student achievement is influenced by many factors, including students' lived experiences related to their ethnic and cultural background, gender, socio-economics, parental education and engagement, safety, and sense of belonging. The data gathered from the Student Census in May, 2022 will help us understand how these factors impact student success. An important way to ensure success is to know and understand students in the richness of their diversity and uniqueness. An essential component of this work is gaining a better understanding of the intersectionality of social identities on student achievement. The information provided will help us better identify the barriers to student success and what we need to do to create more equitable and inclusive learning environments as we work to improve equity, achievement and well-being for all students.

We are committed to helping to create an inclusive and equitable society for all students. By identifying and monitoring systemic racial disparities, our board will be better able to close gaps, eliminate barriers, and advance the fair treatment of everyone. The findings from the Student Census will inform planning, decision-making, resource allocation and the delivery of programs and resources at all levels of the school board.

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Student Census*, for information.