



POLICY

Title: **NAMING OF SCHOOLS**

Policy No.: 2016

Effective Date: **2004 September 28**

Department: Director's Services – Board Services

Reference(s): Equity and Inclusive Education Policy 2022
Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.19
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of
Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

1.0 Intent

This policy and its associated procedure outline the requirements and processes regarding the naming and renaming of TVDSB schools.

All school names will reflect the Board's commitment to promote Indigenous rights, human rights, equity and inclusive learning and working environments for all students and staff. In naming schools, the Board will honour the diversity of Thames Valley school communities.

TVDSB recognizes that the dignity and diversity of Indigenous cultures, traditions, histories, and aspirations must be reflected in education and public information. TVDSB will prioritize rebuilding relationships with local First Nations communities and affirming the identities of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students through intentional action in giving schools names of significance to Indigenous Peoples, history and traditions.

2.0 Objective

To ensure TVDSB schools are named and renamed in a manner that:

- 2.1 Considers name suggestions from the Thames Valley community, other than names of individuals and names reflecting or originating from names of individuals.
- 2.2 Prioritizes school names of significance to local Indigenous Peoples, their history, and traditions.
- 2.3 Prioritizes principles of equity, anti-oppression, and non-discrimination, as well as relevance of school names to students, families, and community.
- 2.4 Values the voices of school communities and of the TVDSB community, including through school and community consultation.

Administered By: **Director's Services**

Amendment Date(s): 2008 Mar.18, 2017 Nov. 9, 2018 Feb. 28, 2021 Mar. 9, 2024 Feb 27

Most Recent EIE Review Date: 2023 Nov. 15

- 2.5 Recognizes the potential importance of a school's name in reflecting and promoting a collective identity of a school community, and therefore the need for continuity of a school name over time.

3.0 Key Terms

Discrimination means unfair treatment through either imposing a burden on a particular person or group, or denying them a privilege, benefit or opportunity enjoyed by others, because of their race, citizenship, family status, disability, sex, or other personal characteristics.

Equity means a condition or state of fair, inclusive and respectful treatment of all people. A distinct process of recognizing differences within groups of individuals and using this understanding to achieve substantive equality in all aspects of a person's life.

Oppression/Anti-oppression means the use of power to disempower, marginalize, silence or otherwise subordinate one social group or category often further empowering and/or privileging the oppressor. / An active and consistent process of change to equalize power imbalances through the elimination of individual, institutional and systemic oppression and injustice.

4.0 Application and Scope

This Policy and corresponding Procedure govern the naming and renaming of TVDSB schools.

The Policy and Procedure apply to all TVDSB employees, Trustees, students, parents/guardians/caregivers, and members of the broader TVDSB community, to the extent that they are engaging in a process or practice referenced in, or fulfilling a responsibility assigned to them under, the Policy and Procedure.

5.0 Responsibility

The Director of Education is authorized to issue operational processes and guidelines to implement this Policy and corresponding Procedure, consistent with legislation or regulations.

All TVSDB employees and Trustees are responsible for ensuring they adhere to this Policy and Procedure, according to their role in naming or renaming schools.

6.0 Monitoring and Review

Monitoring and review of the Policy and corresponding Procedure are to be based on the objectives outlined in section 2.0. Through Policy Working Committee, Senior Administration will revise this Policy and corresponding Procedure based on feedback and input received from students, families, and staff as it relates to naming and renaming of schools. Additional revisions may be required based on legislative changes, Ministry of Education directives, and/or health and safety or labour requirements.

This Policy and corresponding Procedure will be reviewed, at minimum, every 5-7 years or as needed.