FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT
Family Guide

to Edmonton Public Schools

Developed by the First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education unit in Edmonton Public Schools
Welcome, TAWOW to Edmonton Public Schools!

TANSI (Cree)
ABAWASHDED (Stoney)
OKI NAPI (Blackfoot)
EGLENADEH (Chipewyan)
DAHNENH DAHA’ (Dene)
TUNNGASUGIT (Inuktitut)
TANSHI (Michif)
KWÉ (Mi’kmaq)
AANII/BOOZHOO (Anishinabek)

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It Starts with Relationships
~MÎYOWÎCEHTOWIN~

As a partner in your child’s education, we believe that reconciliation and healing can be achieved by fostering respectful, supportive, and welcoming learning environments.

Each year, approximately 7800 students self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit in Edmonton Public Schools. The First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Family Guide is intended to provide general information about the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit programs and resources available to support and enhance your child’s learning journey.

Parents, guardians and families are their child’s first teacher and play an important role in nurturing and encouraging their first language, culture and education.

Parent, guardian and family involvement is one of the most important factors to student success:

• Get to know the school community: programs and resources to support your child, meet the teachers and school principal
• Reinforce the importance of education: monitor progress, provide encouragement and a supportive learning environment at home
• Promote attendance and the importance of reading, writing, homework, good study habits, and career planning
• Support learning through nutrition, adequate sleep, physical activity, and community involvement
• Strengthen the school community by volunteering/mentoring and sharing your knowledge, language and culture
• Maintain on-going communication

Edmonton Public Schools welcomes all students into an inclusive education system which is designed to support the learning needs of every child. The success of an inclusive education system relies on the engagement, collaboration and involvement of students, parents/guardians, staff and community. Regardless of which school and programming you choose, your child will have access to the same high-quality education at all district schools.

NUMBERS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Edmonton Public Schools
780-429-8000

First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education
780-429-8580

Find Your Designated School/School Attendance Areas
780-429-8427

Student Transportation
780-429-8585
First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education

We strive to support and enhance the educational experience and achievement of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. We do this by helping schools develop a holistic understanding of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures, worldviews, histories, and current realities.

We believe this approach fosters relationships that welcome, nurture, and honour individual student’s stories and cultures and supports the weaving of culture and curriculum to enhance the learning for all students.

We collaborate with district staff, First Nations communities, Métis and Inuit organizations, and stakeholders to develop strategies, resources, programs and initiatives that support personal growth, high school completion, and Career Pathways to post-secondary studies or the world of work.

For further information, contact First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education at 780-429-8580 or visit sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/fnmi-education.
Self-identifying as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit

As a parent or guardian you are given an opportunity to self-identify your child as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit during the registration process. In addition, you can verify, change or remove your child’s First Nations, Métis, or Inuit declaration annually on the Student Information Correction Form. Self-identifying is voluntary and does not require documentation to verify status. Self-identified information is treated in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). For more information on FOIP, visit servicealberta.ca/foip.

The process of self-identifying in Edmonton Public Schools provides opportunities for initiatives, programs, resources, and services to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit student achievement. Self-identified information is also used by Edmonton Public Schools and the Government of Alberta to support planning for improvement, accountability, inform policy and funding decisions and for reporting purposes.

FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT FUNDING ALLOCATION

To support the achievement of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students, the Government of Alberta provides all school authorities with a First Nations, Métis, and Inuit funding allocation based on the number of students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit. The funding is not distributed directly to individual classrooms or students. The District allocates the majority of the funding to schools, so they can decide how best to support the collective, identified educational needs of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students in their school community, such as:

- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaisons, coaches and/or mentors
- Elders, Knowledge Keepers and/or Cultural Advisors
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit resources, supports, services and learning opportunities
- Literacy and numeracy intervention support and resources
- Cultural arts based programming

The funding also supports the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Unit; amiskwaciy Academy; Awasis Program at Prince Charles School; and the understanding of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit history, people and cultures for all students.

We encourage you to discuss with the principal how the school allocates the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit funding allocation provided through self-identification.

For further information:
Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative
education.alberta.ca/teachers/fnml/aldci/faq.aspx
District Vision, Mission, Values And Priorities

Every four years, the Board collaborates with stakeholders to develop a set of priorities to guide their work during their elected term. These priorities also serve as a guide for district staff as they deliver the best possible education to each student.

VISION
Transforming the learners of today into the leaders of tomorrow

MISSION
We inspire student success through high quality learning opportunities, supported by meaningfully engaged students, parents, staff and community.

VALUES
Supporting the Vision, Mission and Priorities are the District’s cornerstone values of accountability, collaboration, equity and integrity.

DISTRICT PRIORITIES 2014-2018

1. Foster growth and success for every student by supporting their journey from early learning through high school completion and beyond.
2. Provide welcoming, high quality learning and working environments.
3. Enhance public education through communication, engagement and partnerships.
Edmonton Public Schools
Ward Map

Edmonton Public Schools, located on Treaty 6 territory, welcomes and embraces the rich cultural diversity of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. The Edmonton Public School Board’s nine Trustees were elected to determine the overall direction for the District and to represent the interests of their constituents.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ward A
Cheryl Johner

Ward B
Michelle Draper

Ward C
Orville Chubb

Ward D
Ray Martin

Ward E
Ken Gibson

Ward F
Michael Janz

Ward G
Sarah Hoffman

Ward H
Nathan Ip

Ward I
Sherry Adams
How to get your **MOCCASINS** in the door...

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

When registering your child for the first time or changing schools, please bring the following:

- **A completed, signed Student Registration Form.** Pick up a form at any EPSB school or download at [epsb.ca/schools/register/newstudentregistration](http://epsb.ca/schools/register/newstudentregistration).

- **Legal proof of the student's name, citizenship and birth date.** Please bring at least one of the following:
  - Birth certificate
  - Alberta health care card
  - Alberta identification card
  - Alberta Certificate of Change of Name
  - Alberta Operator's License
  - Canadian Certificate of Indian Status
  - Canadian birth certificate outside Alberta
  - Canadian passport
  - Immunization records
  - Alberta adoption order

- **Proof of residency.** Please bring at least one of the following (schools may request more than one document to confirm an address):
  - Driver's license
  - Utility bill
  - Lease agreement
  - Property tax bill

- **Your child's report card for the last year if available.**

- **Proof of guardianship is required if the student is under the age of 16 and not living with parent(s).**
  - For information on guardianship contact: Family Justice Services John E. Brownlee Building Provincial Government Offices Suite 8077, 10365 – 97 St 780-427-8343

Learn more about registration at [epsb.ca/schools/register](http://epsb.ca/schools/register).

**Inuksuit** are magnificent, unique landmarks that act in place of a person to convey different meanings, for example: to guide a hunter home, warn of a danger, act as a memorial, mark where food is stored, or built to say, “I was here.” **Inuksuit** have expressed the story of the Inuit, land and animals for hundreds of years.

*Inuksuk – singular; Inuksuit – plural*
Transportation
~KÂ-PAPÂMI-POSIHK~

Edmonton Transit (ETS) is the preferred means of student transportation. For information on ETS schedules: phone 311 or visit takeETS.com.

REGULAR PROGRAM: Edmonton Public Schools provides yellow bus service to elementary students attending their primary designated school if they live:

• In a rural area
• In neighbourhoods without a community school
• Where Edmonton Transit service is not available or adequate

In neighbourhoods with a primary and secondary attendance area, yellow bus service will only support elementary students attending their primary designated school.

KINDERGARTEN: Some Kindergarten noon (AM or PM) busing is available based on resources and demand for services. Generally, Kindergarten noon busing is provided in neighbourhoods without a community school.

ALTERNATIVE: Yellow bus service may also be available for elementary students who choose to attend a school offering an alternative program. Contact the school for information about eligibility.

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Busing is provided to students with physical, mental or other disabilities who require a high level of care and attention, are unable to walk to school or use regular yellow bus routes, and who are attending their designated school.

For more information on transportation eligibility, bus passes, fees and routes, please contact your designated school or Student Transportation at 780-429-8585 or epsb.ca/schools/gettoschool.

SchoolZone

SchoolZone is a secure website that provides parents/guardians and students with school and student information, including:

• Attendance records
• Homework and links to resources
• Access to Google apps
• Progress reports
• Achievement results
• Busing information
• School news and events
• Parent council meetings
• Volunteer opportunities

SchoolZone is available on any device connected to the internet. A SchoolZone account will be provided once your child is registered to attend a district school.
Aboriginal Preschool Programs

Getting a Head Start

AMISKWACIY CULTURAL SOCIETY – MOTHER EARTH & ME ABORIGINAL HEAD START provides culturally based programs for children 3½ to 5 years of age. Transportation is available to children who qualify, and the program is free to low income families.

Locations:
Abbott School
12045 – 34 St, 780-477-1596
amiskwacy Academy
101 Airport Road, 780-448-9632
Belmead School
9011 – 182 St, 780-930-4215

BENT ARROW – WHITE CLOUD HEAD START provides Aboriginal preschool children with a positive sense of themselves and their culture. The program helps children develop and learn different skills to be successful in school.

Locations:
Sherwood School
9550 – 152 St, 780-481-3451

Early Years

Early Education programming supports children with special education needs in building important skills and behaviours before Kindergarten. Children with mild or moderate special needs who are at least 3½ as of September 1 are eligible for the one year program. Children with severe special needs who are at least 2½ as of September 1 are eligible for the two year program. A third year of programming in Early Education is also available for children with severe special needs.

Early Learning is an inclusive, play-based environment that prepares children for kindergarten. The classes offer educational programming that focuses on language, literacy and learning through play to help them grow the skills to be confident and successful learners.

For more information about the programs call 780-429-8030.

Learning ultimately supports the well-being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirit, and the ancestors.
— First Nations Education Steering Committee, B.C.
Supporting Your Child’s Learning Journey!

Now that you have your **MOCCASINS** in the door...

- Obtain a copy of the school handbook
- Ask about the school calendar
- Ask for a tour of the school
- Attend a parent information session
- Meet with your child’s teacher, the school administrative assistant and the principal
- Ask about breakfast and/or lunch programs
- Ask about school council meetings
- Check SchoolZone
- Maintain on-going communication

If you would like to know more about a school your child may attend or is attending, please contact the school directly. You can find school contact information at [epsb.ca](http://epsb.ca).

### Elementary Years

**Inquire if your school offers:**

- Early Years programming
- Full-day Kindergarten
- Supports and resources for your child
- Lunch hour and/or after-school programming
- Daycare
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaison/coach
- Success or commitment coaches

**CREE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM**

**AWASIS (CREE) – ELEMENTARY**

The Awasis Program, offered at Prince Charles School, helps students to increase their knowledge and appreciation of Cree Language and Culture. Prince Charles School serves families living in the neighbourhood and endeavours to meet the needs of families living on the north side of Edmonton.

**Prince Charles School**

12325 - 127 St, 780-455-5533

Email: pcharles@epsb.ca

Web: [princecharles.epsb.ca](http://princecharles.epsb.ca)

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**~NEHÎYAWEWIN**

**KISKINOHAMAHTOKAMIK OCIH~**
Transitioning to Junior High

**Inquire if your school offers:**
- Mentorship and tutoring
- Lunch hour and/or after school programs
- Sports and clubs
- Student leadership groups
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaison/coach support
- The sale of bus passes

The annual First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Honouring Celebration provides an opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate the journey of graduating First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students at Edmonton Public Schools. For more details, visit: [bit.ly/FNMI_Events](http://bit.ly/FNMI_Events).

**CREE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM**

**AMISKWACIY ACADEMY – GRADES 9 TO 12**

amiskwacy Academy provides programming and supports for students through the Alberta Education Curriculum including core courses with CTS and Fine Art options as well as a full-time Elder to support learning that honours Aboriginal culture, language and traditions. Additionally, students are supported with a free breakfast and lunch program. To support families, a Parent Resource Room with access to computers and the internet, a Social Worker and Cultural Resources are available.

**amiskwacy Academy**
101 Airport Road, 780-424-1270
Email: amiskwacy@epsb.ca

**Planning for High School Success**

**Inquire if your school offers:**
- Sports and clubs
- Student leadership groups
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaison/coach support
- Success or commitment coaches
- Mentorship and tutoring
- Programming choices
- Extracurricular opportunities
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit focused student learning opportunities and conferences
- School Resource Officer (SRO)
- Gay-Straight Alliance

CHOOSING AND APPLYING TO YOUR PREFERRED HIGH SCHOOL

• Every neighbourhood high school with a designated attendance area has an optimal enrolment limit

• You can find a list of high schools and their optimal enrolment limits at epsb.ca/schools/register/highschoolregistration

• Here’s what you need to know before applying to your preferred high school:
  • After the pre-enrolment deadline, students who have not yet pre-enrolled may have limited options for available high schools
  • If student applications exceed the pre-enrolment limit of available space at any given high school, not all applicants can be accommodated. High schools that are oversubscribed will have a random selection conducted by district administration to determine which applicants from outside the designated area can be accommodated
  • Student course selections are confirmed only after the random selection process is completed
  • Students currently enrolled in language immersion or bilingual programs will be guaranteed admission to high schools that offer continuity of programming

Every attendance area high school offers enrichment programming through either the International Baccalaureate or the Advanced Placement program. Contact your preferred high school or the high school in your designated area for more information.

Learning is embedded in memory, history and story.
— First Nations Education Steering Committee, B.C.
ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The requirements indicated are the minimum requirements for a student to attain an Alberta High School Diploma. The requirements for entry into post-secondary institutions and workplaces may require additional and/or specific courses.

Earn a minimum of 100 credits that includes the completion of:

- English 30-1 or 30-2; and
- Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2; and
- Mathematics 20-1 or 20-2 or 20-3; and
- Science 20 or 24 or Biology 20 or Chemistry 20 or Physics 20*; and
- Physical Education 10; and
- Career and Life Management (CALM 20); and

Earn 10 credits, in any combination, from:

- Career and Technology Studies (CTS)
- Fine Arts
- Second Languages
- Physical Education 20 and/or Physical Education 30
- Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)
- Knowledge & Employability courses; and

In addition to English and Social Studies, earn 10 credits in any 30-level course, in any combination, from:

- 30 level Mathematics, Science, Fine Arts, Second Languages, CTS, or Physical Education and/or
- 30 level locally developed course (learn more about these course options through your high school) and/or
- 35 level Work Experience and/or
- 35 level Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and/or
- 30-4 level Knowledge & Employability courses

Provincial exams are required in English 30-1 and 30-2, Social Studies 30-1 and 30-2, Mathematics 30-1 and 30-2, Biology 30, Chemistry 30, Physics 30 and Science 30. Final marks in these courses represent a blend of school and provincial exam marks.

* The science requirement may also be met with the 10-credit combination of Science 14 and Science 10.

For more information, visit: education.alberta.ca or contact your school counselor/First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaison/success coach.
Alternate Programming and Supports

HOME EDUCATION

Instruction is delivered by parents, teachers or a combination of both for students completing their studies at home. Argyll Centre offers instruction on site and online, enrichment opportunities and program supports. Learning strategies include:

- Teacher-directed home-based learning
- Parent-directed home-based learning
- Blended programming: a combination of teacher-directed and parent-directed, Caraway, and LearnNet

Argyll Centre
6859 – 100 Ave, 780-465-1299
Email: argyll@epsb.ca

ALTERNATE HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

There are many alternative program choices for students who are returning to school, upgrading or need flexibility in their schedule. The following options support high school completion and Career Pathways to post-secondary studies or the world of work.

Argyll Centre 780-465-1299
- Home schooling (parent-directed)
- LearnNet (online learning)
- Blended programming (parent-directed and teacher-directed)

Centre High Campus 780-425-6753
- Programming for students who have attended, or who were eligible to attend, a regular high school for three years
- High school completion
- Academic upgrading
- Post-secondary partnerships
- Career preparation

Learning Stores 780-437-8199
- High school completion for students 16 to 19 years old, as well as 15 year olds who have previously attended high school
- Individual program planning in collaboration with the student and teacher

Transitions at the Park Plaza 780-451-8190
- Receive one-on-one teacher support
- Senior high programming for high school completion
- Support in building independence, work habits, academic and social skills
- Interagency support provided

New Directions 780-429-8030
- Placement determined through the expulsion process

LearnWrite/LearnNet 780-455-5643
- program offered in partnership with the student’s primary high school
- blending small group instruction and individual support to meet student’s programing needs
- flexible programming delivered online or by paper/pencil for timely high school completion

For more information on alternative high school completion, go to epsb.ca/programs/alternatehighschoolcompletion.
SKILLS AND JOB TRAINING

Skills, work experience and job training opportunities allow high school students to explore career interests and pathways into the world of work. Students develop employability skills, gain credits toward a high school diploma and earn a competitive wage while attending high school.

Knowledge and Employability (K&E)
- Job shadowing or work experience opportunities in a supportive environment
- Opportunity to earn a Certificate of Achievement by completing 80 credits in a combination of K&E courses and other courses

The Skill Centre
- Real-world experience with hands-on career courses available at select district high schools
- Choice in Foundations of Health Sciences, Culinary Arts or Engineering Tech

Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)
- Opportunity to attend high school while working as an apprentice in one of Alberta’s 50 or more designated trades
- Work experience at an approved job site
- Ability to transition into full-time apprenticeship program upon high school graduation

Transition Support
- Supports students who have successfully completed Knowledge and Employability programming, completed Grade 12 without a diploma or certificate or left high school before completion
- Career preparation
- Support in building independent living skills

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Oteenow Employment & Training Society
#300, 14925 – 111 Ave, 780-444-0911
Web: oteenow.com

Métis Training to Employment Services – Rupertsland Institute
#2300, 10123 – 99 St, 780-801-9977
Web:metisemployment.ca

Trade Winds to Success
#311, 16120 – 118 Ave, 780-471-9100
Web: tradewindstosuccess.ca

Women Building Futures
10326 – 107 St, 780-752-1200
Web: tradewindstosuccess.ca

For more information on skills and job training, go to epsb.ca/programs/skills.

PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS

Braemar School exclusively supports students ages 13 to 19 who are pregnant or parenting by providing an education in a supportive parenting environment. Terra Child and Family Support Centre provides on-site childcare for infants and toddlers ages three weeks to three years old and parenting support to mothers attending Braemar.

For more information, visit terracentre.ca or call 780-428-3772 and braemar.epsb.ca or call 780-468-3000.
Another Step in Your Moccasin Journey

Most post-secondary institutions offer specific First Nations, Métis, and Inuit supports and services such as Ceremonial Rooms, Elders and Knowledge Keepers, Cultural Advisors, Aboriginal Student Council and Educational Counsellors who provide:

- Traditional knowledge
- Advocacy
- Program advising
- Advice for admission requirements
- Tutoring and mentoring
- Social events and much more

PLANNING FOR POST-SECONDARY

Visit ali.s.alberta.ca/ee/ep/ppps/planning.html for:

- Post-secondary training programs in Alberta
- Apprenticeship programs
- Distance education options
- College and university admissions
- High school transcripts
- Canada-wide learning opportunities and much more

SCHOLARSHIP, BURSARIES AND ENDOWMENTS

Freehorse Family Wellness Society
2nd Floor, 5333 – 91 St
780-944-0172 or toll-free: 1-800-411-9658
Web: freehorse.org

Rupertsland Métis Centre of Excellence
#2300, 10123 – 99 St
780-801-9977

Alberta Learning Information Service
Scholarships & Bursaries
4th Floor, Sterling Place, 9940 – 106 St
780-427-8640 or toll-free: 310-0000
Web: alis.alberta.ca/hs/fo/pay/scholarships

Please visit epsb.ca/ourdistrict/departments/firstnationsmetisandinuiteducation for information about scholarships, bursaries and endowments.

The infinity symbol on the Métis flag represents the faith that the Métis culture shall live on forever, as well the two conjoined circles stand for the unity of two cultures: First Nations and European.
Building Relationships

We know relationships are important to building a welcoming, safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment. Build a relationship with your child’s teacher by keeping track of your child’s progress and staying informed about what’s happening in your school community.

- Introduce yourself to staff
- Attend student-led conferences, parent-teacher conferences and open houses
- Review homework and assignments on SchoolZone
- Follow the school’s social media channels, read school and district newsletters such as the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Newsletter “Honouring Our Voices” (sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/fnmi-education/honouring-our-voices) and visit the school’s website
- Become familiar with what is taught at each grade level at My Child’s Learning: learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning.
- Join a parent council or committee; openings are announced in school newsletters, on epsb.ca and in the local newspapers
- Become involved by volunteering or mentoring. No special training is required and you may teach or learn new skills as part of your involvement:
  - Share your cultural richness with the school community (i.e. Storytelling)
  - Help out at concerts, special events and information sessions
  - Volunteer or organize fundraisers (i.e. soup and bannock, or craft fair)
  - Participate in field trips

As a parent, guardian or volunteer/mentor, you are a valued partner in your child’s education. This is a great way to share in your child’s learning journey!
Connecting with Community

As Edmonton’s First Nations, Métis, and Inuit population continues to grow, so do the opportunities to get involved in the community. Families are encouraged to connect, share and build relationships within the community by attending:

- Powwows/Powwow practice
- Round Dances
- Edmonton Public Library events
- Aboriginal Family Nights
- National Aboriginal month celebrations
- Cultural Arts programs
- Language programs/classes
- Métis celebrations and more!

For more upcoming events, check the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Unit Community Calendar (sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/fnmi-education/community) and the City of Edmonton Events Calendar (edmonton.ca/attractions_events/schedule-festivals-events.aspx).

See page 20 for additional resources.

“Building relationships with families and community partners based on trust and mutual understanding is the key to working together to benefit our communities. These relationships create a strong foundation for progress and positive change, and strengthen our resolve to rally behind the common purpose that binds us all – to support the success of every student in our District.”

— Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools (December 2014)
Success Through Well-Being

Edmonton Public Schools works with many service providers to deliver health services and programs to schools. Alberta Health Services provides information and assistance to families and schools on health-related issues for students.

- **WELL-BEING**: Contact Health Link at 1-866-408-5465 or visit myhealth.alberta.ca.
- **VISION**: September is a good time to have your child’s vision checked! Alberta Health Care covers one complete exam per year for children under 19 years of age.
- **DENTAL**: NAIT’s Dental Clinic provides low-cost dental services to the public, giving their students valuable hands-on experience with patients. All services are provided by the students, under the supervision of a practitioner. Visit nait.ca/66693.htm.
  
  Dentures – call anytime to book during the school year: 780-471-7786
  Teeth cleaning – call in April to book for May and June: 780-471-8827
  Dental x-rays – call anytime. Patients’ names are placed on a waiting list and they are called in as their turn comes up. 780-471-8827
  Dental emergencies – University of Alberta, 780-407-6854
- **HEARING**: Hearing tests are important too!
- **PHYSICAL**: Healthy U – Active Living: healthyalberta.com/activeliving.htm
  City of Edmonton – Active Living School: edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/active-living-school.aspx

**Circle Teachings**

The circle has no beginning and no end. Everyone in a circle is equal and can see everyone else. When in a circle, only one person speaks at a time without interruption. The next person to speak has the choice to share their thoughts and feelings or pass. A talking stick or rock may be used by the speaker and passed to each person in the circle.
Strengthening Relationships

Students are successful when we weave First Nations, Métis, and Inuit worldviews with the District’s mission, vision and cornerstone values of accountability, collaboration, equity and integrity. Take opportunities to strengthen relationships between home and school by contacting your child’s teacher.

- Set up a meeting time that is convenient for both of you
- Present your reason for the meeting
- Speak and listen carefully
- Write down your questions and take notes at the meeting
- After the meeting, think about whether you are satisfied. Is another meeting necessary? Is progress being made?

If you require further assistance, contact First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education at 780-429-8580 or Edmonton Public Schools District Support Services at 780-429-8030.

**Sweetgrass**

Sweetgrass is found in damp regions across many areas of the prairies. It is often located by its fragrance. Sweetgrass is ready for picking in July and must be picked with the proper protocol of offering Mother Earth prayers and tobacco.

Braiding and preserving: while it is still green, the stalks of the grass are divided into three sections that represent body, mind and spirit.
Additional Resources

- **Aboriginal Parent Link Centre**
  **Bent Arrow**
  11666 – 99 St
  780-474-2400
  http://humanservices.alberta.ca/family-community/plc-regional-map.html

- **Alberta Health Services**
  (Health Link, 24/7)
  780-408-5465
  albertahealthservices.ca/223.asp

- **Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)**
  alis.alberta.ca/index.html

- **Ben Calf Robe Society**
  780-477-6648
  bcrsociety.ab.ca

- **Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society**
  780-481-3451
  bentarrow.ca

- **Bissell Centre**
  780-423-2285
  bissellcentre.org

- **Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area**
  780-822-2525
  bgcbigs.ca

- **Canadian Native Friendship Centre**
  780-761-1900
  anfca.com/friendship-centres/edmonton

- **Capital Region Housing Corporation**
  780-420-6161 or 780-428-8200
  crhc.ca

- **Centre for Family Literacy**
  780-421-7323 or toll free: 1-800-421-7232
  famlit.ca

- **City of Edmonton, Aboriginal Relations**
  780-944-7602
  edmonton.ca/city_government/city_organization/aboriginal-relations-office.aspx

- **Coats for Kids**
  myunitedway.ca/coats-for-kids-families

- **Community Calendar links**
  Edmonton Public Schools:
  sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/fnmi-education/community
  City of Edmonton:
  edmonton.ca/attractions-events.aspx

- **Creating Hope Society**
  780-477-7961
  creatinghopesociety.ca

- **Edmonton Food Bank**
  780-425-4190
  edmontonsfoodbank.com

- **Edmonton Aboriginal Seniors Centre**
  780-476-6595
  easc.ca

- **Edmonton Public Library**
  780-496-7000
  epl.ca

- **Edmonton Public Schools**
  780-429-8000
  epsb.ca

- **First Nations in Alberta**
  (Contact information for Treaty 6, 7, and 8 communities)
  aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100020670/1100100020675

- **First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education**
  780-429-8580
  sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/fnmi-education/home

- **Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services**
  780-492-0772
  www.ismss.ualberta.ca

- **Kids Help Phone**
  1-800-688-6868
  kidshelpphone.ca

- **KidSport**
  780-644-1815 or toll free: 1-888-914-5437
  kidsport.ab.ca/index.php?page=edmonton_home

- **Learning Clicks**
  alis.alberta.ca/ec/ep/pps/learning-clicks.html
• Métis Child and Family Services
  780-452-6100
  metischild.com

• Métis Employment Services
  780-423-2237
 metisemployment.ca

• Métis Settlements in Alberta
  Métis Settlements General Council
  Suite 101, 10335 – 172 St
  780-822-4096 or toll free: 1-888-213-4400
  metissettlementsgc.com

• Mill Woods Family Resource Centre
  780-413-4521
  mwfrc.org

• My Child’s Learning: A Parent Resource
  mychildslearning.ca

• Native Counselling Service
  780-451-4002
  ncsa.ca

• New In Town
  after hours: 780-232-2782
  newintownedmonton.ca

• Pride Centre
  780-488-3234
  pridecentreofedmonton.org

• The Family Centre
  780-423-2831
  the-family-centre.com

• The Red Road Healing Society
  780-471-3220
  theredroad.ca

• Tools for School
  myunitedway.ca/tools-for-school

• Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS)
  780-486-7070
  yess.org

For additional information, contact 211 at 780-482-4636 or visit 211edmonton.com.

Notes

* Photographs in this document supplied by Edmonton Public Schools.
Edmonton Public Schools is helping to shape the future in every one of our classrooms. We’re focused on ensuring each student learns to their full potential and develops the ability, passion and imagination to pursue their dreams and contribute to their community.

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Centre for Education
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First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education
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