

POLICY #19

SANCTUARY SCHOOLS

PREAMBLE

The Board of Education is committed to supporting students and families whose residency and/or immigration status may be questioned. Every student and family should feel that their connection with the Burnaby School District and its schools is safe and welcoming. The District's information gathering processes and records shall be treated as confidential and will not be shared with other agencies except as required by law.

POLICY

ALL SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN WHO ARE ORDINARILY RESIDENT WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCLUDING THOSE WITH PRECARIOUS IMMIGRATION STATUS OR NO IMMIGRATION STATUS IN CANADA, ARE ENTITLED TO ADMISSION TO SCHOOL AND THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. That school or school district administrators and/or staff will require representatives of agencies and authorities to show required specific legal authority that permits their access to information and/or entry to schools or Burnaby School District facilities.
- 2. That communications and training protocols will be developed and regularly reviewed to ensure that all employees and volunteers are made aware of this policy.
- 3. That administrative procedures will be reviewed, updated, and communicated as needed to ensure compliance with legal requirements.
- 4. That staff involved in student registration processes receive specific training and regular updates to ensure that immigrant students and families are appropriately supported.
- 5. That local organizations working with immigrant communities be made aware of this policy.

Date Adopted: Date(s) Revised: 2025-05

Cross References: