



MEMORANDUM

Memo No. 19-100

TO: Trustees
Student Trustees

FROM: Camille Williams-Taylor, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board
Dorothy Baker, Superintendent of Instruction

DATE: 9 September 2019

RE: **The Reciprocal Education Approach (REA) Parent, Guardian and Student Fact Sheet**

The Education Act was amended in 2018 to set out the legislative framework for the Reciprocal Education Approach (REA). This framework will govern access to education for First Nation students residing on-reserve who wish to attend a school of a school board and those students residing off-reserve who wish to attend a First Nation-operated or federally operated school. The REA is a new approach that seeks to support First Nation students in achieving greater access to education and strengthen a parent or guardian's choice when selecting the type of education that best meets their child's needs. These amendments and regulatory changes come into effect on September 1, 2019.

Under the REA, and when specific requirements are met, school boards will be required to take a student-first approach by:

- Admitting eligible students who wish to attend a school of a school board; and
- Supporting eligible students who wish to attend a First Nation-operated or federally-operated school, subject to that school's admission policies.

The OCDSB currently does not have any students registered who reside on-reserve nor do we have students who have indicated an interest in attending a First Nation-operated or federally-operated school. Having said that, this legislation provides for and supports greater choice for First Nation students.

The attached [Parent, Guardian and Student Fact Sheet](#) provides information for parents, guardians and students to support their access to REA.

For further details, contact Superintendent Dorothy Baker at 613-596-8211 extension 8886 or at dorothy.baker@ocdsb.ca.

Attach.

cc Senior Staff
 Manager, Board Services
 Corporate Records