



Greaves Adventist Academy

Montreal Campus

Sartigan Campus

POLICY: Multicultural Education

CODE: 6

Origin: Administration

Authority: Greaves Adventist Academy School Board

Introduction

The Greaves Adventist Academy School Board believes that one of its essential roles is to promote multicultural education that reflects the values of its respective communities and its Christian faith. The School Board believes that all students should receive an education in democratic values as legislated by a democratic Canadian society and the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.

The Greaves Adventist School Board acknowledges a growing pluralism in Quebec and Canadian society and an ever changing pattern of ethnic diversity and that all students should acquire the knowledge and aptitudes necessary to appreciate the rich diversity of their local, national and global communities. The School Board also believes that students should acquire the necessary tools and education to better comprehend our society and its diversity, to interact positively with persons of diverse backgrounds and to participate actively as global citizens.

The Greaves Adventist School Board believes its school should provide a respectful environment for each student along with a commitment to work in partnership with the students, parents and community groups to focus on building a common culture that takes diversity into account. The schools should also have a commitment to actively pursue partnerships that promote awareness of multiculturalism and cultural diversity and to focus on building common goals with combined resources.

1. Principles

- 1.1 Greaves Adventist School Board affirms and promotes the dignity, equality and fundamental worth of all human beings regardless of age, capabilities, ethnic origin, gender, language, race or religion.
- 1.2 All Board policies shall foster acceptance and understanding of all persons and encourage an appreciation of human diversity as a positive feature of Quebec and Canadian societies.
- 1.3 The Board affirms and promotes equality of opportunity for all persons.

2. School Environment

2.2 School Environment

The Board shall:

- Ensure that the learning and social climate in its schools (Greaves Adventist Academy;(Montreal Campus and Sartigan Campus) foster and build on the diversity present in Quebec society promoting mutual respect and an environment free from all forms of discrimination as listed in 1.1 of the policy.
- Promote effective communication and continuing contact with ethno-cultural communities at the school level.
- Provide resources for extra-curricular activities that promote multicultural awareness, understanding and sharing among the diverse cultures.
- Foster the teaching of Canada's democratic values including equality, participation in the affairs of state, the laws of the land, the peaceful resolution of conflict and individual rights.
- Ensure that its schools provide each student with a warm and welcoming environment as well as an equal opportunity for individual academic success and personal development as envisioned within each school's Educational Project and Success Plan.

2.3 Curriculum and Learning Resources

The Board shall:

- Continue to recognize its affiliation with the North American Division and support its mission to “establish and maintain a culture of peace” within our schools.
- Encourage its personnel, through professional development, to seek courses that relate to working sensitively and knowledgeably with people of diverse cultural and racial origins.
- Encourage pedagogical approaches that take into account individual and cultural diversity in learning styles.
- Ensure that curriculum and learning resources are selected with sensitivity, balance and objectivity regarding cultural, religious and moral values. Students should be able to see themselves reflected throughout the curriculum.
- Encourage curriculum adaptations and innovations that will help create positive attitudes and mutual respect among the members of the school.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 The Board shall:

- Encourage the Quebec Government to develop and establish appropriate intercultural policies, programs and to provide the necessary support for staff training.
- Encourage Colleges and Universities to prepare educators for multicultural and multiracial classroom.
- Take a leadership role in working with community groups and service agencies that provide a support network for our diverse communities.
- Encourage the development of multicultural projects.
- Sponsor workshops on multiculturalism and support employees who wish to take courses in multicultural education.

- Encourage our school to integrate multiculturalism and global education into the curriculum and school activities.
- Assist our school in selecting; curriculum and learning resources with sensitivity, balance and objectivity regarding cultural, religious and moral values.

3.2 The Principal must:

- Ensure that each student is provided with a warm and welcoming environment as well as an equal opportunity for individual academic success and personal development as envisioned within the schools or Educational Project and Success Plan.
- Ensure that the learning and social environment in the school.
 - Promotes Canada's democratic values
 - Fosters mutual respect
 - Is free from all forms of racial, cultural and religious discrimination
- Encourage staff to integrate multiculturalism into the curriculum and student activities and to relate sensitively and knowledgeably to people of different cultural and racial origins.
- Identify and address the multicultural professional development needs of his or her staff.
- Take a leadership role in working with community groups and service agencies who promote awareness of multiculturalism and cultural diversity and who provide a support network to the school.
- Encourage the development of local multicultural projects.

3.4 Home and School Association shall:

Respect the Board's Multicultural Policy when

- Developing and adopting its Educational Project
- Approving its Success Plan
- Approving the school board's organization, of cultural, social, sports, scientific or community services on school promises