



ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL POLICY

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1. Terms of Reference

Band Member	Referring to persons who are on the Band's Registry List.
Community Member	Referring to persons who are married to, or children of Band Members, who themselves are not on the Band's Registry List currently living on reserve. Refers also to people who have been accepted to live on-reserve by the Residency Code.

2. General Purpose

This education Law is an exercise of the Wahnapiatae First Nation inherent jurisdiction to govern our own affairs and is intended to advance the best interests of Wahnapiatae First Nation, to foster student well-being and promote education progress and success and promote good educational decision-making. Wahnapiatae First Nation intends on supporting educational programs and educational services that will benefit our people now and for future generations.

3. Student Tuition Eligibility & Start Up Allowance

3.1 Eligibility

To be eligible for elementary or secondary school provincial tuition the student must be between the ages of 4 and 19 years and:

- i. Living on Wahnapiatae First Nation land and;
- ii. Included on Wahnapiatae First Nation's Student List and;
- iii. Member/Community Member of Wahnapiatae First Nation or;
- iv. Reside with a Wahnapiatae First Nation Band Member

3.2 Start Up Allowance

Start Up Allowance for Wahnapiatae First Nation students living on reserve and enrolled in either Elementary or Secondary School will receive:

- i. Elementary Students: will receive a maximum of \$200.00.
- ii. Secondary Students: will receive a maximum of \$300.00.

Secondary Student Activity fees which include locker and a student card for participating students enrolled will be paid by Wahnapiatae First Nation directly to the school.

Start-up Allowance will be distributed in August prior to each school year; cheques will be made out in students name at age of 15 years old who have their own bank account.

4. Student Information

Parent/Guardians are required to fill out the "Student Information for Student Support Allowance" form, prior to each school year for student enrollment tracking, invoicing purposes, and insurance. This form is distributed yearly by Wahnapiatae First Nation's Education Department and is available at Wahnapiatae First Nation's Education Office. Any changes to student contact information throughout the school year should be forwarded to the Wahnapiatae First Nation's Education Office

Parents/Guardians are required to fill out the "Authorization for Release of Information" form for tracking and invoicing purposes, this form will be handed out separately from this policy. This form is required to assist the Education Office and the School Boards to collaborate when necessary for education programming and reporting purposes only. Parents and Guardians will be notified by the Education Office or School Board and invited to participate, when such meetings occur. Due to this form being written in conjunction with local provincial School Boards, the form is housed separately for easier updates.

Information gathered from these forms will be used in the Education Departments' reporting and information sharing responsibilities as per the Education Data Collection Policy.

5. Tuition

Services will be purchased for students who meet the eligibility criteria in Section 2.1 from the Rainbow District School Board, Sudbury Catholic District School Board and French Catholic School Board within the Valley East District. Community Members are not immediately accepted to be funded by Wahnapiatae First Nation's Education Department; any new Community Members should reach out to the Education Department to discuss.

Students attending a private or independent school or school outside Valley East District by choice, are not entitled to accommodation or transportation services through Wahnapiatae First Nation.

Any tuition fees paid to attend a private or independent school will not be greater than the rate at the nearest Provincial School Board to Wahnapiatae First Nation.

The Education Department will pay tuition fees to other provincial school boards, provided the student is included on our current school bus transportation list or a permanent resident living on Wahnapiatae First Nation.

6. Transportation

For full details on student transportation see the Wahnapiatae First Nation's Education Transportation Policy.

7. Student Attendance Incentives

The goal of the student incentive is to motivate students to attend school/classes and do better in their studies. It is important to note that attendance incentives will be given each year at the Academic Award Ceremony upon the receipt of each student's attendance records from their school. Only on reserve Wahnapiatae First Nation Members/Community Members are entitled to this student incentive and therefore must be residing on-reserve for the semester/year.

The Education Department requires the "Authorization for Release of Information" form signed and on file, so that the schools can forward copies of the report cards and student attendance records. For budgeting purposes, incentives will be paid out in the same school year only and not later than July 31st annually.

Incentives are based on the current year's student enrollment. Please refer to section 3.0 for requirements prior to distribution.

Students' incentives will not be distributed until the Student Information sheet and Release of Information form has been submitted to the Wahnapiatae First Nation Education Department.

8. Attendance Incentive Criteria:

Incentives will be determined and distributed at the end of each academic year during the Student Academic Achievement Award Ceremony hosted and held by Wahnapiatae First Nation Education Department.

Students are eligible to receive a \$25.00 incentive for promotion on education and academic success if the total amounted absent days in the academic year (September to June of each year) is less than 15 days.

It is important to note that any absences approved by the school and/or with prior approval with the Education Office are not counted as an absence and will not go against the total allotted number of absent days.

9. Tutorial Services

Tutoring in academic subjects may be possible depending on current budget allocations. To request financial assistance for tutoring, the following is required:

- i. Provide a letter of support from a teacher, counsellor or principal recommending tutoring assistance

Tutoring may be offered upon requests and availability of a tutor. Forward requests to the Wahnapiatae First Nation's Education Department.

10. Student Awards and Achievements

Each year the Education Department will host an Academic Achievement Award Ceremony for our students to recognize and promote their educational success and academic strengths demonstrated from the current school year.

Students eligible to receive any of the following awards: attendance, academics, cultural, scholarships, graduate or other potential recognitions awards will be distributed during the award ceremony. This ceremony will be held between the month of June to July surrounding the end of each academic year.

10.1 Eligibility:

To be eligible a student must be a Wahnapiatae First Nation Band member or Community Member.

Any student eligible to receive an award will be granted upon the Education Department receiving the supporting documentation from schoolteachers and principals through access of the Release of Information form.

Please note that the Student Information for Student Support Allowance and the Authorization for Release of Information must be signed, completed and returned to the Education Department and/or the Anishinabek Student Support Counsellor to receive this incentive.

For budgeting purposes, awards will only be paid out and/or given to the students at the end of the year Academic Achievement Award Ceremony held and hosted by Wahnapiatae First Nation Education Department.

10.2 Elementary and Secondary Graduate Incentives

Elementary Students who have successfully graduated Grade 8 will be awarded in recognition for their transition to a secondary school by the Education Department with the eligible incentive amount of \$100.00.

Secondary Students who have successfully graduated with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or General Education Diploma (GED) will be awarded a graduate incentive by the Education Department in the amount of \$200.00.

Please note that ALL Elementary and Secondary students must provide a copy of their graduation certificate or diploma to the Wahnapiatae First Nation Education Department to receive eligible incentives.

10.3 Student Incentive Initiative

In recognizing the efforts of our Wahnapiatae First Nation Students pending yearly budget allowances the Education department will award those students an incentive amount of \$50.00 for the successful completion of each academic school year.

This incentive initiative is to promote educational growth and wellbeing for all our first nation member students living on Wahnapiatae First Nation Land attending elementary and secondary school

11. Privacy, Information Sharing, and Records

For more information on the Department's Privacy, Data Collection, and Document Retention practices, please see the Education Document Retention Policy (500.POL.DATA.Education_Document_Retention) and Data Collection Policy (501.POL.DATA.Education_Data_Collection_Policy).

12. Amendments

Minor or administrative amendments to this policy that do not alter its intention or core criteria may be made with the approval of the Executive Director, without requiring formal review or approval by Chief and Council.

13.Revision History

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