

POLICY 280 SMUDGING

The Board of Education recognizes that smudging is practiced by many nations across Canada and is an important part of shared concepts and teachings based on Indigenous Worldviews. Smudging is the burning of sacred plants, and it is done to begin a new day, to cleanse a space, as part of a prayer, and to begin ceremonies, meetings, and gatherings.

The Board of Education is committed to the ongoing learning that respects the cultural diversity of Indigenous students. In partnership with the Ts'elxweyeqw, Pilalt, and Sema:th tribes, the Board of Education aims to be inclusive and culturally responsive by integrating First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives into school planning and programming. This includes welcoming all students to learn about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit traditions.

Smudging is permitted on school district sites, subject to proper safety measures.