



# Student Census Survey 2021

## Family Guide

Families with Children in Kindergarten to Grade 6

### **WHY IS THE DSBN *MY VOICE COUNTS* STUDENT CENSUS SURVEY IMPORTANT?**

**The data collected will help us to:**

- 1** Better understand the needs of our students and school communities
- 2** Address barriers to student well-being, achievement and success in targeted and intentional ways
- 3** Create more equitable and inclusive school environments

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE FAMILY GUIDE?

The Family Guide is intended to help families answer the **DSBN My Voice Counts** Student Census Survey questions on behalf of their children in Kindergarten to Grades 6 (K-6).

The K-6 Student Census Survey consists of 8 questions about student ethnicity, race, languages, nationality, religion/spirituality, gender identity and disability/condition.

The K-6 Student Census Survey is voluntary and confidential. Please know that while we encourage you to answer as many questions as possible, you may skip any questions you are not comfortable answering. To preview the survey questions, click here: [Preview K-6 Student Census Survey](#)

In addition to this guide, you may wish to refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section on school and DSNB websites that will address questions you may have, including the purpose, confidentiality, and privacy of the census.

## UNDERSTANDING THE IDENTITY AND DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS ON THE K-6 STUDENT CENSUS SURVEY

### Question # 1 - Indigenous Ancestry

- This question specifically refers to Indigenous peoples within Canada.
- This question is asking if your child has First Nations, Métis, and/ or Inuit ancestry. You may select multiple responses if more than one apply.

## **Question # 2 - Ethnic Origin**

- Ethnic origin refers to a person's ethnic or cultural origins. Ethnic groups have a common identity, heritage, ancestry, or historical past, often with identifiable cultural, linguistic, and/or religious characteristics.
- There are many response options provided to answer this question. They are listed alphabetically. Please consider your answer and scan the list before making your selection.
- Select as many responses as applicable if your child has multiple ethnic backgrounds.
- There is an area to type your own response if you do not see your child reflected in the choices provided.

## **Question # 3 - Racial Background**

- Race is a social construct that groups people on the basis of common ancestry and characteristics. Race can be confused with ethnicity (a group of people who share a particular cultural heritage or background), but there may be several ethnic groups within an identified racial group.
- If your child identifies as mixed racial or has multiple backgrounds, please select multiple responses.
- There is an area to type your own response if you do not see your child reflected in the choices provided. Please be specific in identifying your child's racial background.

## **Question # 4 - Status in Canada**

- After reading the options provided, if you are unsure of your child's current status in Canada, you may select either: not sure or I do not understand the question.

### **Question # 5 - First Language**

- There are many response options provided to answer this question. They are listed alphabetically. Please consider your answer and scan the list before making your selection. There is an area to type your own response if you do not see your child reflected in the choices provided.

### **Question # 6 - Religion or Spiritual Affiliation**

- This question asks about your child's religion, spiritual affiliation or beliefs. There is an area to type your own response if you do not see your child reflected in the choices provided.

### **Question # 7 - Gender identity**

- Gender identity refers to a person's own sense or feeling of being a girl/woman, a boy/man, both, neither or anywhere on the gender spectrum, which may or may not be congruent with (or the same as) one's biological sex. It is different from and does not determine a person's sexual orientation.
- Please select all gender identities that you feel apply. There is an area to type your own response if you do not see your child reflected in the choices provided.

### **Question # 8 - Disability**

- A disability may be physical, mental, behavioural, developmental, sensory, communicational or a combination of any of these.
- There are two parts to this question. If you respond yes to the first part, please complete the second part.
- There is an area to type your own response if you do not see your child reflected in the choices provided.
- The option "Pain" refers to chronic pain.

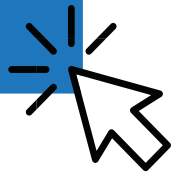
# **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE DSBN *MY VOICE COUNTS* STUDENT CENSUS SURVEY.**

The collection of the identity or demographic data in this survey is part of a Ministry of Education initiative that is intended to “foster policies, procedures and practices that are equitable and inclusive for all students — regardless of background, social identity or personal circumstance.” The Anti-Racism Act, 2017, permits these questions to be asked to identify and eliminate discrimination and racism.

Individual student data will never be released; all analyzed and released data will be de-identified. All reporting will use group data to protect the privacy and confidentiality of students, parents/guardians and families.

**Click Here**

**Take the K-6  
Student Census Survey**



**Your experience  
matters.**