Date 3 September 2010
To All Trustees
From Lloyd McKell
Senior Advisor, Director’s Office
416-397-3138
Subject STUDENTS WITHOUT IMMIGRATION STATUS

Attached for your information is the package sent to schools concerning admission of students who are without immigration status in Canada. The poster included in this package was sent to schools as a colour poster.

Att.
STUDENT ADMISSION PROCESS
GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL OFFICE STAFF

A. STUDENTS REGISTERED DIRECTLY BY THE SCHOOL WITHOUT REFERRAL TO ADMISSION OFFICE

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents, convention refugees, refugee claimants as indicated by their verification documents, and who meet the eligibility requirements for age, guardianship, and school boundary.

  *Accepted Verification Documents*: Canadian Birth Certificate; Canadian Passport; Canadian Citizenship Card; Aboriginal Status Card; Confirmation of Permanent Residence (IMM 5292); Permanent Resident Card; Acknowledgement of Refugee Claim (IMM 1442); Notice of Decision Letter for Refugee Claimants.

B. STUDENTS REFERRED TO TDSB ADMISSION OFFICE PRIOR TO REGISTRATION AT THE SCHOOL

- Students who are not Canadian citizens, Permanent Residents, Convention Refugees, Refugee Claimants (Category A above) and who do not present a School Admission Letter issued by the TDSB Admission Office:

  - students of parents on a work permit
  - students with a study permit
  - students on a travel visa or visitor’s visa to Canada whose admission may be subject to payment of fees to the TDSB;
  - dependents of foreign diplomats,
  - dependents of foreign religious clergy,
  - students with no or insufficient verification documents
  - students living in the community without immigration status,

TDSB ADMISSION OFFICE, 5050 Yonge Street, Main Floor

- assess eligibility for admission of students referred in Category B
- determine the fee-paying status of these students
- provide an School Admission Letter where applicable

Contact Information: 416-395-8109 or 416-395-9618
Email: admissions@tdsb.on.ca
TO: Principals, Vice Principals, School Office Administrators

FROM: Lloyd McKell, Senior Advisor
Director’s Office

DATE: 19 August 2010

RE: Admission of Students Without Immigration Status

As we approach the August-September new registration period, this is a reminder of the Board Policy requiring our schools to admit students living in our communities who are without immigration status in Canada. The policy of the Board states as follows:

“All children who are qualified to be resident pupils of the Board, including those without immigration status in Canada, shall be entitled to admission to school. All children shall be welcome, regardless of immigration status, and information about them or their families shall not be shared with immigration authorities”.

(TDSB Policy P.061 May 2007)

Students without immigration status refers to students born outside of Canada who do not have the status of Canadian citizen, permanent resident, convention refugee, refugee claimant, or who are not in the special categories of fee-paying and non fee-paying students administered by the Admission Office (e.g. international students, parent(s) on work and study permits, children of diplomats, or foreign religious clergy). See Operational Procedure PR. 518 for further details.

These students are eligible for school admission once their legal name, date of birth, country of origin, date of arrival in Canada, and home address can be verified by documents which they bring with them. Such documents may include a passport, birth certificate, official school record, utility bill (for proof of address). An affidavit or signed letter of confirmation from a person of recognized standing in the Toronto community (e.g. family doctor, community shelter director, and faith leader) may be used to support verification. These students/parents should be referred to the TDSB Admission Office at 5050 Yonge Street to receive a Letter of Admission prior to registration.

This policy reinforces the Education Act, Section 49.1 which establishes the right of these children to be admitted to Ontario schools. The intent is to ensure that such children, who are already vulnerable due to their current life circumstances, are not placed at greater risk by being excluded from our schools.

For further information or assistance, please contact the TDSB Admissions Office At 5050 Yonge St (416-395-8109 or email: admissions@tdsb.on.ca).

TIP: At registration, don’t ask the parent/guardian, “Do you have proof of your child’s status in Canada? Ask instead, “Please show us any documents which have the student’s legal name, date of birth, country of birth, date of arrival in Canada, and current address”.
All children living in our community, including those without immigration status in Canada, are entitled to admission to our schools.