

# *Kitchi Minogining*

## *Tribal School*



The Grand Traverse Band of  
Ottawa and Chippewa Indians'  
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*Kitchi Minogining Tribal School*  
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians  
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# MISSION STATEMENT

It is the goal of the Kitchi Minogining Tribal School staff to provide an educational environment that:

- ◇ is free of emotional and physical threat
- ◇ promotes personal responsibility and growth
- ◇ gives every student the opportunity to succeed
- ◇ allows the student to take responsibility for his/her educational path
- ◇ provides individualized support to help students find appropriate course work and master any difficult concepts they may encounter
- ◇ promotes the use of hands-on and experiential learning as much as possible with the materials and facilities available
- ◇ emphasizes collaborative and cooperative approaches to learning
- ◇ provides curriculum materials that meet the State of Michigan requirements for graduation
- ◇ coordinates learning experiences in collaboration with other Grand Traverse Band departments and facilities



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students will complete the coursework required for graduation at the time of their enrollment. Any student not having attended for a period of one year or more will be re-enrolled under the most current graduation requirements.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the student and his or her family.

## **LUNCH POLICY**

There is no school lunch program at this time. Students may bring lunch from home and are welcome to use the kitchen facility, provided that they clean up after themselves. Students may leave the school building during lunch, but they must sign out when they leave and sign in upon return.

## **TELEPHONE USE POLICY**

Students may use the classroom telephone for local calls only with permission from the teacher. Students should use the phone for occasional, brief business calls, not for numerous, long, or purely social chats. The teacher, at his or her discretion, will suspend telephone privileges for any student who chooses not to comply with this policy.

## **SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS**

### *Bad Weather Cancellations*

School will be cancelled whenever the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians' tribal offices are closed. In the event of bad weather, students are encouraged to call the classroom before venturing out on dangerous roads.

### *Staff In-service Cancellations*

Periodically throughout the year, school may be cancelled for staff in-service training. Students will be notified of these cancellations in advance.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

*The Kitchi Minogining Tribal School exists primarily to provide a challenging, individualized educational experience to Grand Traverse Band members whose needs are not being met in the public schools. Other Anishinaabe students are welcome as space allows. All students are encouraged to remain in the public schools when an appropriate and challenging curriculum is provided.*

*We are best able to help students who are at least fifteen years old, and who have completed one year or more of high school.*

## **ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE**

Students may enroll by contacting the local classroom teacher or the Program Director. To enroll, students must complete the following:

1. Intake packet for educational services
2. Submit a copy of student's tribal ID, or other proof of eligibility
3. School records request form(s)

## **CREDIT POLICY**

Upon enrollment, the student's transcripts from any other schools attended will be requested and evaluated, and appropriate credits will be issued. Credits will be issued as coursework is completed.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

In order to remain enrolled, and to receive academic credit, all students must meet each week with their teacher to discuss academic progress, submit work, take tests, and any other necessary tasks.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Our educational program is based on the student working at his, or her, own pace toward educational goals. Consistent attention to school work is a significant factor in a student's ability to make steady progress toward the completion of educational goals. Students, in collaboration with the teacher will develop a schedule that meets the student's academic needs. Any student who is not making adequate progress may be dropped from the program, after consultation with staff members. Any student who is dropped for lack of progress is encouraged to apply for readmission when he or she is ready to make a commitment to their educational progress.

## **BEHAVIOR POLICY**

Each student's behavior will exhibit an understanding of and respect for the rights of all students to learn and teachers to teach. Kitchi Minogining Tribal School will not tolerate cyber bullying, or threats in any manner, to inflict bodily harm or mental abuse using social networking sites such as facebook, MySpace, etc, or through texting or sexting.

## **COUNSELING SERVICES**

Individual counseling services are available through The Grand Traverse Band Behavioral Health Services. A student may contact any Kitchi Minogining Tribal School staff member to request counseling services at any time during the school year. Students who choose to attend individual counseling sessions may do so at their convenience, including during school hours.

A Kitchi Minogining Tribal School staff member may refer a student for individual counseling if a student's behavior and/or academic progress suggests that the student would benefit from this service. The staff member will discuss this referral with the student before the referral takes place.

## **WEAPONS POLICY**

In Compliance with State Law, Kitchi Minogining Tribal School will expel any student who possesses a dangerous weapon during any school function or activity, including field trips. For purposes of this policy, a dangerous weapon is defined as "a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three inches in length, a pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, dart, iron bar, or brass knuckles" and other devices designed to, or likely to inflict bodily harm, including but not limited to air guns, explosive devices, martial arts paraphernalia, or any other devices which are used intentionally by a student to threaten or inflict bodily harm. Any staff member who has reason to suspect or witness student possession of a weapon during school hours will immediately call the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Tribal Police, and/or local law enforcement.

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY**

### *Cigarette Smoking and Tobacco Abuse*

Cigarette smoking and tobacco usage is not allowed by minor students on Tribal property. We discourage the abuse of tobacco, but promote awareness of the traditional, respectful use of tobacco.

### *Alcohol and Chemical Substance Abuse*

Abuse of any legal or illegal substances, including inhalants and prescription drugs, during school hours and activities will not be tolerated. Students choosing to abuse mind/body altering substances during school hours, or arriving at school under the influence of those substances will be asked to leave for the rest of that school day. All suspected incidences of substance abuse will be reported to the student's parent/guardian, the Grand Traverse Band Behavioral Health Services, and probation officers, if applicable.