

Indian Policies and Procedures

Belcourt School District #7

It is the intent of the Belcourt School District #7 (School District) that all Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the school district. To this end, the Belcourt School District #7 will consult with local tribes and parents of Indian children in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs), general education programs, and activities. These policies and procedures will be reviewed annually, and revisions will be made within 90 days of the determination that requirements are not being adequately met.

ATTESTATIONS

The School District attests that it has established Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs) as required in section 7004 of the Impact Aid law for any children claimed who reside on eligible Indian lands. The IPPs have been adequately disseminated electronically to the tribal secretary and parents of children residing on eligible Indian lands via school website. A copy of the current policies and procedures was attached to the FY 2023 Impact Aid application.

The School District attests that it has provided a copy of written responses to comments, concerns and recommendations received from tribal School District and parents of Indian children through the Indian policies and procedures consultation process and disseminated these responses to tribal School District and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of their Impact Aid application.

Indian Policies and Procedures

The following Indian policies and procedures become effective upon school board approval.

Policy 1: The School District will disseminate relevant applications, evaluations, program plans, and information related to the School District's education program and activities with sufficient advance notice to allow tribes and parents of Indian children the opportunity to review and make recommendations. [34CFR222.94(a)(1)]

Procedure 1

The School District will disseminate, as soon as reasonably possible after such information becomes available, but not later than one week in advance of any meeting, by the method described above to Indian parents and Tribes a copy of the following documents:

- Impact Aid application.
- Assessment/Evaluation of Equal Participation in all Educational Programs;
- Indian Policies Procedures (IPPs); or recommended changes to
- Any Plans for District education programs;

- Title I Program Plan (optional may vary by year)

POLICY (2): The School District will provide an opportunity for the tribe and parents of Indian children to provide their views on the District's educational program and activities, including recommendations on the needs of their children and how the District may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities. [34CFR222 .94(a)(2)] As a part of this requirement, the School District will-

- (i) Notify tribes and the parents of Indian children of the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations, considering the tribe's preference for method of communication, and
- (ii) Modify the method of and time for soliciting Indian views, if necessary, to ensure the maximum participation of tribes and parents of Indian children.

Procedure 2:

2.1 The School District will make the following opportunities available for parents of Indian Children and tribes to provide input on the educational program and activities:

- Annual School Board Meeting in the Fall
- Other School Board Meetings on an as needed basis

2.2 Indian parents and Tribes will be given notice of all meetings by advertising the meetings in local news media and by informing parents and notifying interested patrons that hearings will be held throughout the school year. Tribal education officials and the parents of Indian children will be given an electronic written or voice notification with instructions on how to obtain the materials at least one-week prior to the meeting. Parents are also notified in the school handbook with an annual calendar of meetings and events.

2.3 The tribe will be consulted annually to determine the current preferred method of communication, Once the preferred method of communication has been decided, the tribe and parents of Indian children communication method will be used throughout the consultation process. Any changes to the method will happen through additional consultation with tribes and parents. The School District will, to the greatest extent possible, take the tribe's preferred method of communication into consideration for all correspondence with the tribe and the parents of Indian children.

2.4 If the consultation participation by parents of Indian children and tribes is low, the School District will re-evaluate its consultation process. Specifically, the School District will take the following measures to improve or enhance participation:

- Consult with parents of Indian children and tribes on how to increase participation.

- Change time and/or location of meeting.

POLICY (3): The School District will annually, assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in the District's education program and activities. [34CFR222.94(a)(3)] As part of this requirement, the School District will:

- (i) Share relevant information related to Indian children's participation in the School District's education program and activities with tribes and parents of Indian children; and
- (ii) Allow tribes and parents of Indian children the opportunity and time to review and comment on whether Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children. Comments and recommendations submitted throughout the year from tribe and parents will be logged and included in the fall meeting discussion.

Procedure 3:

3.1 The School District will annually calculate from its records the ratio of Indian children compared to non-Indian children participating in all academic and co-curricular education programs. The School District will review the prior year's participation information and disseminate its assessment of Indian children participation compared to non-Indian children and any other related data with the parents of Indian children and tribes by the methods described above at least one week in advance of the Fall meeting to discuss equal participation.

3.2 Parents of Indian children, tribes and other interested parties may express their views on equal participation, educational programs, and activities at the annual Fall meeting.

3.3. If it is determined that there are gaps in Indian participation in the educational program or activities, the School Board in consultation with the tribe parents of Indian children, will modify its education program in such a way as to improve Indian participation.

POLICY (4): The School District will modify the IPPs if necessary, based upon the results of any assessment or input described in this document. [34CRF222.94(a)(4)]

Procedure 4:

4.1 The School Board will schedule a meeting in the Fall to discuss the content of the IPPs, equal participation, and educational program and activities. Any comments and recommendations from tribe and parents to the IPPs will be accepted throughout the year. These will be reviewed by school administrators and the Impact Aid authorized representative as to whether they recommend any changes to the IPPs. Parents of Indian children and tribes will be notified via the methods described above.

4.2 The School Board will evaluate all recommendations and reject or accept the changes to these IPPs.

4.3 The School Board will decide on all recommended revisions to these IPPs.

4.4 Any changes made by the School Board will become effective immediately upon adoption.

4.5 The School District will disseminate copies of the revised IPPs to the tribe and parents of Indian children by the methods referenced above within 30 days of adoption by the School Board via: school website and copy presented to the Tribal Secretary.

POLICY (5): The School District will respond annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by tribes or parents of Indian children and disseminate the responses to the tribe and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of the IPPs by the School District. [34CRF222 .94(a)(5)]

Procedure 5:

5.1 The School District will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by tribes, or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to all parties by the methods referenced above prior to the submission of the IPPs by the District.

POLICY (6): The School District will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to the affected tribe or tribes. [34CR F222.94 (a)(6)]

Procedure 6:

6.1 The School District will annually provide a copy of the current Indian Policies and Procedures to tribe (s) by the methods referenced above prior to submitting the Impact Aid Application.

Board Approval Date _____
Date