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Indian Policies and Procedures, Title VIII, and Impact Aid

The Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes or their designee, and parents of Indian children served in the District, shall be provided with the opportunity to comment on the participation of Indian children on an equal basis with other children educated by the Poplar Schools. Not later than December 1 of each year, the District will hold a public meeting for the express purpose of allowing the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes and parents of Indian children the opportunity to: 1) receive and review data presented by the Poplar Schools on the number and percentage of Indian students participating in each program offered by the school district; and 2) comment on the participation of Indian children on an equal basis in the school programs with all other children educated by the Poplar Schools.

The District will, by October 1, assess each of its programs, classrooms, teams, clubs, etc., and record, at a minimum, the number of students participating and the percentage of Indian students participating. This report shall be disseminated to the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes through the Tribal Health, Education and Welfare Committee and placed on the agenda of the next Board meeting for discussion by the Board.

On an annual basis, the District will conduct a needs assessment, in an effort to identify how its educational program may need to be modified to allow Indian children to participate on an equal basis. The results of this assessment will be presented to the Board and discussed at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The express purposes of the discussion shall be to: 1) discuss recommended modifications to school education programs to allow Indian students to participate on an equal basis, if it is determined that they are not; 2) continue the opportunity to provide meaningful input on any relevant issue; 3) discuss recommendations of School policies and procedures based on input.

The District will disseminate copies of the Impact Aid applications to tribal officials, and the applications will be reviewed at the annual public hearing. The review of new or continuing programs is an ongoing process of the Board, and agendas are posted in the District Office. Program plans and information related to the education programs of the District will also be reviewed at District meetings as changes are considered.

Adequate time and opportunity will be provided for tribal officials and parents to present views and comments regarding the disseminated documents.

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The Administrative Assistant for Indian Education monitors all educational programs on a daily basis and provides a report to the Indian Education Parent Committee on a monthly basis. In addition, a member of the Indian Education Parent Committee, designated by said Committee, is present at each Board meeting to provide input to the Board.

Tribal officials, parents of Indian students, or the Indian Education Committee may place items on the Board meeting agenda for discussion and/or action by the Board. Such meetings occur on the Poplar School District second Monday of each month and convene at 7:00 p.m., in the Board Meeting Room. In August of each year, the Board convenes to discuss the final budget. Any community member may be present to provide comments and input on the final budget. All meetings are duly advertised in accordance with the "Open Meeting" statutes of the State of Montana.

Based upon the recommendations of the needs assessment, the Title IX external evaluation and other pertinent data in cooperation with the Indian Education Parent Committee, the Board may, at its discretion, adopt these changes and recommendations.

All changes to the policies must be posted for a period of not less than twenty (20) days, to provide for public input and comment.

All meetings called for any purpose addressed by these Policies and Procedures regarding P.L. 874 must meet the requirements of the "Open Meeting" statutes of the State of Montana. Inasmuch as state law prohibits the Board from delegating legal responsibility, the Trustees retain final authority for the established policies, procedures, and school programs affected by this Act.

Policy History: Adopted on:

Revised on: 11 July 2016