SCHOOL DISTRICT #9
BROWNING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BROWNING, MONTANA 59417

INDIAN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
P.L. 103-382 TITLE VI IMPACT AID
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the intent of the Browning Public School District #9 that ALL of school age children have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the school district. To this end, the BPSD will consult with local tribal officials and parents of Indian children in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs), general education programs, and activities. These policies will be reviewed annually, and revisions will be made within 90 days of the determination that requirements are not met.

Attestations:
The BPSD 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 Indians lands. The IPPs have been adequately disseminated to the Blackfeet Tribe and parents of children residing on the eligible Indian Lands. A copy of the current policies and procedures was attached to the ~~FY 2026~~ FY 2027 Impact Aid application.

The BPSD attests that it has provided a copy of written responses to comments, concerns and recommendations received from tribal leaders and parents of Indian children through the Indian Policies and Procedures consultation process and disseminated these responses to tribal leaders and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of BPSD's ~~FY 2026~~ FY 2027 Impact Aid Application.

The following Indian Policies and Procedures become effective upon school board approval.

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

Procedure 1: BPSD will disseminate information on its educational programs.

The completed applications, IPP's, evaluations, and program planning will be made available to parents of Indian children, Tribal officials, and the Parent Advisory Committee via email or the district's social media site and information will be prepared and disseminated via mail 10 days in advance of public hearings held in *September* and *April* to afford all interested parties the opportunity to review the documents with sufficient time to provide thoughtful input at the public meetings. These hearings will be publicly advertised by the local newspaper, school calendar, and the district's social media site to allow all interested parties to attend. In addition, representatives from the District and Parent Committee will schedule a meeting with the Tribal Education Committee to annually share the proposed IPPs and seek input.

Parents of Indian children, Tribal offices, and the public will be given notice of meetings related to equal participation or the content of the educational program by including information about meeting times and locations in the school calendar, newspaper, District website, Facebook or mail.

Parents of Indian Children, Tribal offices, and the Parent Committee and any other interested persons can review assessment data to help develop or modify educational programs and services allowing for the participation of Indian students on an equal basis in the district.

Policy 2: The BPSD will provide an opportunity for the Blackfeet Tribe and parents of Indian children to provide their views on the district's educational programs and activities, including recommendations on the needs of their children and on how the District may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities. [34CFR222.94(a)(2)]

(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: The LEA surveys the parents of Indian children and Tribal officials via mail in the fall and spring to provide an opportunity the Blackfeet Tribe and parents of Indian children to provide their views on the District's Educational program and activities, including recommendations on the needs of the children and how the District may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities.

The Parent Advisory Committee of the BPSD will meet on a regular basis for the purpose of addressing comments and concerns of parents of Indian children regarding the District's educational programs and activities. All meetings are open to the public allowing for Tribal officials as well as parents of Indian children the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations for consideration.

The Browning School District provides the opportunity for consultation with the Blackfeet Tribe prior to the adoption of these board policies. The Blackfeet Tribe prefers all communication with the Tribe and parents of Indian children be disseminated via email or in person.

The LEA will, to the extent possible, take the Tribe's preferred method of communication into consideration for all correspondence with the Tribe and the parents of Indian children for consultation on these IPPs and the educational program and activities.

At each of the monthly school board meetings, a section of time is set aside for communications from the public. This is a time to offer comments and suggestions regarding programming for Indian students.

Information will be included in student handbooks/enrollment packets regarding opportunities to provide input to the District. *We will notify parents and tribes for opportunities by Facebook, website, email and districtwide messaging. Notifications will include instructions on how to obtain documents and will go out at least one week in advance of these meetings*.

District representatives will schedule meetings with representatives from the Browning Community, and Blackfeet Tribe to discuss ongoing programing goals. If we have low participation will re-evaluate

consult with parents, change times of the meeting, virtual meetings will also be scheduled.

<u>Policy 3</u>: The BPSD will annually assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in the district's education programs and activities. [34CFR222.94(a)(3)]

(i) Share relevant information related to Indian children's participation in BPSD's educational programs and activities with the Blackfeet Tribe and parents of Indian children; and

(ii) Allow the tribe and the 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.

<u>Procedure 3</u>: The BPSD shall annually analyze participation rates of Indian children compared to other children in all aspects of the educational program and school sponsored activities. The analysis will compare the participation rates of Indian children compared to non-Indian children to identify any gaps where participation may not be on an equal basis. *This analysis will occur, be emailed to the Blackfeet Tribe and posted ten days in advance on the district website, Facebook and districtwide messaging which includes a link to the posting prior to our fall meeting of each year*. Each school board meeting the BPSD will also take public comment on the assessments.

The BPSD's Superintendent and school staff, in conjunction with the Parent Advisory Committee, will review annual survey data and comments gathered from families and students.

During the fall meeting the administration, staff members and the Parent Committee, Indian parents and Tribal officials will hold a meeting to evaluate the extent of Indian children's participation in the educational programs for the preceding year. At such meeting, attendees will analyze, and the results of the data and its comments will be shared with Tribal officials, parents of Indian children and all other interested parties in the district to discuss equal participation. In addition, comments and/or suggestions brought forth from these conversations will become part of the Committee's approved minutes.

This data will be utilized to develop appropriate support for various programs.

As needed the district will establish a task force with the Superintendent's Community Advisor Committee made up of administrators, Indian parents, Tribal officials, community, and staff members to assist in the development of recommendations to modify educational programs in order to ensure the equal participation of Indian children. Such committee shall make recommendations to the district as to any recommended modifications for consideration.

Parents of Indian children or Tribal officials may comment on the results at regularly scheduled board meetings, Parent Committee meetings, or to the Superintendent of the School District by email, Facebook, Website, and districtwide messaging.

<u>Policy 4</u>: The Browning 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)]

<u>Procedure 4</u>: The Browning School Board has scheduled meetings in **September** to discuss the content of the IPPs and in *April* to discuss educational programs and activities. Parents of Indian children and Tribal officials are notified via social media, local radio station and by newspaper or district newsletters regarding these meetings and their opportunity to submit comment. In addition, the parents of Indian

children and Tribal officials may make recommendations to the IPPs or the educational programs at any regularly scheduled Parent Committee meeting or any regular school board meeting, or in direct communication with the school district.

The District presents a draft version of the IPPs to the Parent Committee at their monthly meetings prior to the January school board meeting for consultation and collaboration on the content.

The District will evaluate all recommendations for changes to these IPPs.

The District will decide on all recommended revisions to these IPPs.

Any changes approved by the Browning School Board will become effective immediately upon adoption.

Browning School District will post the revised IPPs on the District website, Facebook, by email and text messages within 30 days of the adoption by the Browning School Board and the District will send a revised copy of the IPPs to the Impact Aid Program at the U.S. Department of Education within 30 days of adoption by the Browning School Board.

Policy 5: The Browning School District will respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by the Blackfeet Tribe or parents of Indian children and disseminate the responses to the Tribe and parents of Indian children via email and through the district website prior to the submission of the IPPs by the LEA [34CRF222.94(a)(5)]

Procedure 5: The Browning School District will respond at least annually in writing to the comments, questions and concerns received through the IPP consultation process. In the event that the school district receives multiple comments on the same topic area, the Browning School District will summarize these comments and respond to them as a group.

The Browning School District will respond to comments, questions and concerns received through the consultation process in writing no later than September of each year.

The summary of the responses to the comments, concerns and recommendations through the consultation process will be available to the Tribe and parents of Indian children on the District Website, Facebook, email and text messages with instructions on how to obtain the full copies.

Policy 6: The BPSD will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to the affected tribe or tribes. [34CRF222.94(a)(6)]

Procedure 6: The BPSD will annually provide a copy of the current Indian Policies and Procedures to the Browning Community on the District Website and the Blackfeet Tribe by email before filling the Impact Aid application each year.

Board Approval Date: ~~10/13/2026~~ 11/10/2026