650 NATIVE AMERICAN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I. PURPOSE

The district will provide Native American students equal access to its educational programs, services and school-sponsored activities. The district will consult with affected tribal officials and parents and guardians of Native American students in planning and developing these policies and the district's general educational programs and activities.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. These procedures support the district's Impact Aid consultation responsibilities for eligible students residing on Native American lands and provide opportunities for input from Native American families throughout the district. Federal eligibility definitions and application certifications continue to govern Impact Aid submissions. The term Native American is used throughout this local policy, except in the official name of the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee. IPPs is retained as the federal program abbreviation.

B. The policies will be reviewed at least annually. Revisions needed to meet 34 CFR 222.94 will be made within 90 days after the district determines, with tribal and parent input, that requirements are not adequately met. Changes become effective upon School Board approval.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

A. The Superintendent is responsible for implementation, board recommendations, required submissions and written responses. The Indigenous Studies Coordinator will coordinate notices, consultation materials, surveys, meeting records and communication with families and tribal contacts. The principal and designated staff will provide program and participation information.

B. The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) will review educational needs, participation information, survey findings and proposed revisions and recommend improvements. AIPAC participation supplements direct consultation with tribal officials and parents; it does not replace that consultation. Committee membership and voting procedures remain subject to applicable requirements and committee bylaws.

C. The local tribe for consultation is Red Lake Nation. As of November 2026, the district has not yet been able to establish direct contact with a designated tribal representative. The appropriate consultation contact and preferred delivery method have not been confirmed. The Indigenous Studies Coordinator will continue outreach, document contact attempts, and update the district's contact and communication records when this information is confirmed.

IV. SHARING INFORMATION BEFORE CONSULTATION

The district will provide relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information about its educational programs and activities early enough for affected tribes and parents of Native American students to review them and make recommendations. [34 CFR 222.94(b)(1)]

1.1 The Superintendent or designee, with the Indigenous Studies Coordinator, will distribute the following materials before meetings at which they will be discussed:

- The current-year Impact Aid, Title VI, and AIEA applications, with protected student information removed, and plain-language summaries of the applications and their purposes.

- The annual assessment of equal participation, including relevant program evaluation findings and school and district report card information.
- The current Native American Policies and Procedures and any proposed changes.
- Plans for district educational programs, including Title VI and AIEA program plans and significant programs proposed for initiation, change or elimination.
- Written district responses to comments and recommendations from the consultation process.

1.2 Materials and meeting notices will be provided at least seven calendar days before the related meeting. This local minimum applies to the consultation materials and invitations and does not replace other applicable public meeting notice requirements. When documents become available earlier, the district will provide additional review time. Title VI and AIEA application materials will be shared in time for consultation before their respective submission deadlines.

1.3 The Coordinator will send materials directly to designated tribal contacts using each tribe's confirmed preference. Native American families will receive materials by their recorded preferred method. Paper copies will be available through the school office. District social media notices will supplement direct delivery.

1.4 Notices will state the meeting date, time, location or remote access instructions, topics, how to obtain documents, and how to submit written or oral comments. The Coordinator will offer assistance accessing or understanding materials and arrange reasonable communication accommodations as needed.

1.5 Only information suitable for disclosure will be shared publicly. Applications, data reports, surveys and responses will be reviewed for student privacy, including the risk of identifying students in small groups. The district will document when, how and to whom materials were distributed.

V. OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILY AND TRIBAL INPUT

The district will invite affected tribes and parents of Native American students to identify student needs and recommend ways to improve the benefits students receive from district programs and activities. It will consider tribal communication preferences and adjust the timing and methods of consultation to maximize participation. [34 CFR 222.94(b)(2)]

2.1 The Superintendent or designee will provide consultation opportunities with tribal officials and Native American families through fall and spring AIPAC consultation meetings. Tribal officials and families will be directly invited and able to offer meaningful input. The district will also hold an annual School Board consultation meeting in December addressing Impact Aid, Title VI and AIEA programming, equal participation, educational programs and these policies.

2.2 The Coordinator will distribute the planned calendar near the beginning of the school year, or promptly after adoption for the initial year. Each meeting will also receive a separate notice and materials using the advance-notice period in Procedure 1.2. Notices will explain how to participate and submit recommendations.

2.3 The district will seek family and tribal feedback through a fall and spring survey. Surveys will address student needs, access to programs, barriers to participation, family engagement, communication and suggested improvements. Electronic and paper response options will be offered. Results will be summarized for consultation without identifying individual respondents. Results of each survey will be reviewed at the AIPAC meeting in the following month.

2.4 Families and tribal officials may provide input throughout the year to the Indigenous Studies Coordinator, principal or Superintendent, in person or through written communication. The district will explain these opportunities in enrollment information,

family handbooks and meeting notices. Comments received through any method will be included in the consultation record.

2.5 The Superintendent will offer direct meetings with affected tribal officials to discuss programming goals and concerns. Frequency and format will be arranged with each tribe rather than assumed from another district's practice.

2.6 When meeting attendance or survey response is low, the Coordinator will ask families and tribal contacts what would improve participation. The district will adjust outreach, meeting times, locations, formats or response methods and document the changes. Lack of attendance will not be treated as agreement with district proposals.

VI. ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF EQUAL PARTICIPATION

At least annually, the district will assess whether Native American students participate on an equal basis with non-Native American students in its educational programs and activities. The district will share relevant findings with affected tribes and Native American families and allow time for review and comment. [34 CFR 222.94(b)(3)]

3.1 The principal and designated staff, with the Indigenous Studies Coordinator, will prepare an annual review of participation in district academic programs, extracurricular activities and co-curricular opportunities. The review will include school-sponsored opportunities offered through the athletic co-op where applicable.

3.2 The review will examine enrollment and participation rates within each student group using comparable grade levels and eligibility criteria. For example, the percentage of eligible Native American students participating in an activity will be compared with the percentage of eligible non-Native American students participating. Raw counts alone will not establish whether participation is equal.

3.3 The review will cover the district's programs and activities, including the following where offered and applicable:

- Core coursework, electives, advanced coursework, college credit and career or technical opportunities.
- Academic interventions, tutoring, special education and other student support services, with attention to access and appropriate identification.
- Athletics, clubs, arts, leadership activities, enrichment, field trips and other school-sponsored opportunities.

3.4 Attendance, academic progress, graduation information, school climate and family or student feedback will help explain participation patterns and student needs. Staff will consider possible barriers such as cost, transportation, scheduling, access to information and students' sense of belonging.

3.5 The district will share a privacy-protected written summary at least seven calendar days before the spring consultation meeting, subject to any longer period adopted under Procedure 1.2. The summary will identify the period reviewed, programs examined, findings and proposed follow-up. School and district report card information will accompany or be linked in the materials.

3.6 Families and tribal officials may comment at the consultation meeting or through the ongoing channels in Procedure 2.4. AIPAC will review the findings and recommend improvements. The district will document the recommendations and its response.

3.7 When gaps or barriers are identified, the district will consult with families and tribal officials and modify programs or practices to improve participation. Administration will identify the action, responsible staff, implementation schedule and evidence to review at the next consultation meeting. Changes requiring board action will be presented to the School Board.

VII. REVIEW AND REVISION OF THESE POLICIES

The district will revise these policies when participation assessments or consultation show that changes are needed. [34 CFR 222.94(b)(4)]

4.1 Each October, AIPAC, affected tribal officials and parents of Native American students will have an opportunity to review the policy, its implementation, participation findings and consultation practices. The Coordinator will circulate the current policy and proposed changes in advance under Procedure 1.2.

4.2 The Superintendent will compile recommendations, identify proposed revisions and explain how the revisions address the input. The School Board will review the policy and proposed revisions in November. Policy adoption and revisions will follow the district's policy adoption procedures. The December board consultation meeting will provide an additional opportunity for tribal and parent input. Recommendations received later will be considered without waiting for the next annual cycle when prompt changes are needed.

4.3 If the district determines after tribal and parent input that these policies do not meet applicable requirements, it will amend them within 90 days of that determination. The record will include the determination date and the revision deadline. Adopted changes take effect upon School Board approval.

4.4 Within 30 days after amendment, the district will send the amended policy to the affected tribes and the Director of the federal Impact Aid Program. The district will also distribute the revised policy to Native American families within that period, provide district social media notice of its availability and retain evidence of distribution.

VIII. WRITTEN RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION INPUT

The district will respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations from affected tribes and parents of Native American students. Responses will be distributed to tribes and Native American families before the district submits its policies and Impact Aid application. [34 CFR 222.94(b)(5)]

5.1 The Coordinator will maintain a record of comments, concerns and recommendations from all consultation methods, including surveys, AIPAC meetings, board meetings, tribal meetings, written submissions and individual conversations. Meeting minutes will be supplemented by a consultation log so that input outside meetings is included.

5.2 The Superintendent or designee will prepare a written response identifying the issue or recommendation, the district's decision or proposed action, reasons for the decision, responsible staff and any follow-up timeline. If an action is deferred or a recommendation is not adopted, the response will explain why.

5.3 The district will distribute a privacy-protected annual response summary directly to affected tribes and Native American families through their confirmed communication methods before submitting the policies and annual Impact Aid application. A public copy will be available through the school office. Individual student or personnel matters will be addressed privately through the appropriate district process.

Annual written responses before submission remain required regardless of the schedule chosen.

IX. ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION TO AFFECTED TRIBES

The district will provide the current policy to each affected tribe at least annually. [34 CFR 222.94(b)(6)]

6.1 The Coordinator will send the board-approved policy to each affected tribe through its confirmed preferred method before the annual Impact Aid application is submitted. The district will also provide the policy to Native American families and make it available through the school office.

6.2 Distribution records will identify the policy version and approval date, recipient, date sent and delivery method. Tribal contacts and delivery preferences will be confirmed annually and updated when the district learns of changes. The Superintendent will verify completion before application submission.

6.3 The Superintendent will verify that required consultation, board approval, policy distribution and written responses have occurred before making application assurances. Statements certifying completed consultation or dissemination will be used only after the work has occurred and will identify the applicable application year.

X. RECORDS AND ANNUAL FOLLOW THROUGH

The district will retain consultation calendars, invitations, distribution records, materials, surveys, participation assessments, minutes, comments, written responses, board actions and evidence of implementation under applicable record retention requirements. AIPAC will receive progress updates on agreed actions at subsequent meetings.

XI. REVIEW AND ADOPTION RECORD

AIPAC review date: _____

Tribal and parent consultation date or dates: _____

School Board adoption date: _____

Next annual review: _____