

**Community and Parental Involvement**

Note: Title 20 of the United States code mandates that school districts receiving Impact Aid funds have a policy ensuring all parents and community members, including IRA and traditional councils, have the opportunity to submit their views and active consultation relating to the district's education and co-curricular programs. It is the law's intent to encourage the maximum participation by Alaska Natives in the planning and management of Alaska Native education programs.

Note: Under the Every Student Succeeds Act, "affected" school districts are required to consult with local tribes or tribal organizations prior to submitting a plan or application for federally covered education programs. Affected districts are those that either: 1) have 50% or more of its student enrollment made up of Alaska Native students; or 2) received an Indian education formula grant under Title VI in the previous year that exceeds \$40,000. Consultation must be done "in a manner and in such time that provides the opportunity for such appropriate officials from Indian tribes or tribal organizations to meaningfully and substantively contribute to plans under covered programs." Federal programs requiring consultation between tribes and affected school districts include:

- Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies)
- Title I, Part C (Education of Migratory Children)
- Title I, Part D (Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk)
- Title II, Part A (Supporting Effective Instruction)
- Title III, Part A (English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act)
- Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)
- Title IV, Part B (21st Century Community Learning Centers)
- Title V, Part B, subpart 2 (Rural and Low-Income School Program)
- Title VI, Part A, subpart 1 (Indian Education Formula Grants to Local Educational Agencies)

The School Board recognizes that all parents and community members, including IRA and Traditional Councils, have a special interest in the education programs and co-curricular programs provided their children. To provide an opportunity for them to be meaningfully involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of each school's educational and co-curricular program, all interested parties will mutually enter into Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP's), which are incorporated into and adopted as the policy of the School Board. The policies must be drafted in accord with 20 USC 7704 and 34 CFR 222.94. In addition, the following procedures will be used:

Note: Where "Advisory Committee" appears, the board may wish to specify/designate what body will be responsible for implementing this policy based on the needs of your district.

1. At a meeting of a School Board Advisory Committee called for that specific purpose, the Principal/Head Teacher will present a detailed description of that school's education program including curriculum (course description, scope and sequence) and program evaluation procedures as well as the co-curricular program provided. At least two weeks prior to that meeting public notice will be given through newspapers, public posting, and radio announcements, where appropriate, stating the agenda and purpose of the meeting. To further insure community involvement a written invitation will be sent to the IRA and/or Traditional Council.

2. During the planning and development of local education programs all parents and community members including IRA and Traditional Councils, will be actively consulted in the following manner:
  - a. At each Advisory Committee meeting where program applications for financial assistance are reviewed all members of the public will be given an opportunity to present their views.
  - b. All members of the public will have an opportunity to present their overall views on the educational program and its operation.
  - c. All members of the public will have an opportunity to make recommendations concerning the needs of their children.
  - d. All members of the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the way in which they can assist their children in realizing the benefits to be derived from the educational program.

*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

## **Nondiscrimination**

The School District certifies that all children participate in the school program on an equal basis regardless of age, sex, race, creed, color, national origin, or ethnic background and shall not be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity of the district consistent with Title IX of the Education amendments of 1972 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

## **Educational Program**

Note: Under the Every Student Succeeds Act, the government is dedicated to the development of curriculum materials that reflect the cultural diversity of Alaska Natives, instructional programs that make use of Native Alaskan languages, and programs and materials designed to address the needs of rural Alaska schools. This includes supporting the unique educational needs of rural school children by incorporating qualified Alaska Native elders and seniors.

The primary purpose of the educational program is to provide experiences by which individuals will learn within the context of their needs as well as the broader needs for which the district shares a responsibility. Under this assumption, the school is viewed as a link between the individual and learning resources and experiences available to meet both short and long range needs. To encourage the strongest and most viable linkage, the School Board recommends:

1. A program which is individualized to the maximum extent and which provides as many options as possible within educational goals statement previously made.

2. An organization plan by grade level or function which considers local expectations and efficiency of operation rather than an arbitrary pattern of organization. Individualization of program for students and optimum staff utilization demands an organizational plan based upon statement performance, skill grouping, and activity grouping rather than a rigid grouping by age, sex, or other non-educational basis.
3. A staff utilization procedure which establishes specific personnel needs based upon the programs requirements. All persons, directly or indirectly affect the school operation. Certificated, classified and resource personnel, as well as students in certain circumstances, are considered in developing procedures for staff utilization.
4. A guidance and individual program planning effort which assures the widest choice of alternatives to individual students over their period of formal education. Emphasis will be upon bringing the student in direct contact with those educational experiences and resources which best meet short or long range needs.
5. An assessment program which uses both subjective and objective measures in determining student performance and the effectiveness of the school program in achieving learning objectives. This program is an integral part of the guidance function and requires both the involvement and understanding of students and parents in its development.
6. A wide range of learning materials and techniques which will meet the needs of students and of those responsible for instructional or learning activities. Special consideration must be given to unique cultural and language requirements. Audio and video materials, as well as print materials, are particularly important to the concepts- of individualization and maximum learning options.
7. A program for bringing students, schools and communities together in various educational, cultural, and recreational activities. The Alaska High School Activities Association (AHSAA) is recognized as the authority for all high school interscholastic activities. The district accepts as binding all AHSAA rules and regulations for membership and competition. All activities will be made available to students on a nondiscriminatory basis.
8. Maximum use of community resources as an integral part of the curriculum. Budgetary and administrative procedures should promote this utilization with standards established at the district and community level.
9. A continuous program of curriculum development at the community and district level. In this way the program will remain dynamic from both a content and organizational standpoint. Innovative or pilot efforts should be encouraged within whatever constraints must be applied to afford protection of students from potentially harmful experimentation.

10. That in those areas which may be viewed as controversial, instructional procedures will be confined to a body of factual information with acceptance or interpretation left to the student. Religion is recognized as an important historic element but specific religion responsibility rests with the home and church. The Advisory Committee and parents should play a major role in determining how controversial issues will be handled **BEFORE SPECIFIC CONTROVERSIES OR ISSUES ARISE**. Areas often found as the source of controversy are sex education, alcohol, and drug education.
11. Special programs, such as Title 1, Migrant Education, and Indian Education be designed, implemented and evaluated with input from parents and teachers of involved students. Specific activities may include but are not limited to:
  - a. Notifying each child's parents and teachers in a timely manner that the child has been selected to participate in the program.
  - b. Informing parents and teachers of specific objective of the program.
  - c. Establishment of parent-teacher conferences.
  - e. Providing materials, suggestions and training to enable parents to promote education at home.
  - f. Providing timely information concerning the program's plans and evaluations.
  - g. Soliciting parents and teacher suggestions in planning and operating the program.
  - h. Facilitating volunteer or paid participation by parents in school activities.
  - i. Establishing parent advisory committees.

*Legal Reference:*

UNITED STATES CODE

*20 USC §§ 7541-7546, Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act*  
*20 USC § 7704 Policies and procedures relating to children residing on Indian Lands*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

*34 CFR 222.94*

*Revised 12/2024*