# EDUCATION OF NATIVE/INDIAN CHILDREN

Note: A stated purpose of the <u>No Child Left BehindEvery Student Succeeds</u> Act is to authorize the development of supplemental educational programs to benefit Alaska Natives, and to supplement existing programs and authorities in the area of education to further the purpose of the Act.

# Modification of Educational Program to Allow Equal Participation in Programs by Native Students

When it becomes apparent that Native students do not have the opportunity to participate in an educational program on an equal basis with non-Native students, and the situation cannot be remedied by an administrative order, a task force comprised of teachers, students (if applicable), and parents will be created and charged with the specific duty of modifying the program to allow such equal opportunity to participation.

## Parent and Tribal Involvement in Review of Impact Aid Applications

Note: This section is only required when the District chooses to apply for federal Impact Aid funds.

Each fall at the appropriate time, Impact Aid application cards will be distributed to the students at each school to be brought home and filled out by the parent/guardian. Upon return of the cards, they will be submitted to the Student Records office in the District Office where the formal Impact Aid application will completed. Copies of the completed document will be sent to each school to be discussed at an Advisory Committee meeting, and sent home with students or mailed directly to the parents. Additionally, a copy of the completed document will be sent to the appropriate tribal officials, IRA Councils, Traditional Councils, and the Association of Village Council Presidents.

## **Dissemination of Program Plans for New Educational Programs**

District wide education programs to be initiated by the district will be reviewed by the Curriculum Review Committee for approval prior to being submitted to the district School Board for action. In addition, new district wide programs will be discussed at an Advisory Committee meeting at each site called for the reason of discussing the program. Parents, community members, and appropriate tribal officials will be invited to the meeting. Information on the program will be sent home with students or mailed to parents. Appropriate tribal officials will be mailed information on the program.

When an individual site initiates a new program, it will be discussed at an Advisory School Board meeting called for the specific reason of discussing the program. Parents, community members, and appropriate tribal officials will be invited to the meeting and information on the program will be either sent home with students or mailed to parents. Appropriate tribal officials will be mailed information on the program.

Site initiated programs must be forwarded to the Curriculum Office for review and approval by the Curriculum Review Committee prior to submittal to the district School Board for action.

#### Instruction

## EDUCATION OF NATIVE/INDIAN CHILDREN (continued)

# Procedures for Assessing the Meaningfulness of Alaska Native/American Indian Input on IPP Policies

Note: This section is only required when the District chooses to apply for, and receives, federal Impact Aid funds.

Each year the School Board will appoint a committee to assess the meaningfulness of community input on IPP policies. This committee will review the Alaska Native/American Indian input on, opportunity for input on, and the district's response to such input on the district's IPP policies. Should the committee determine that the district's policies and procedures require modification as a result of comments submitted by tribal officials and parents, its recommendations will be presented to the School Board <u>for action</u> at its next regularly scheduled meeting <u>for action</u>.

Added 11/12 Reviewed 1/14, 1/12

Note: Districts receiving federal Impact Aid are required to have "IPPs" or Indian Policies and Procedures. The following sample was adopted from sample policies issued by the Department of Education. <u>The requirements</u> listed in this exhibit apply only when the District receives federal Impact Aid.

The Southeast Island\_School District's goal under the Indian Policies and Procedures [IPP] is to ensure that all American Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services, and activities provided by the school district.

The District will establish policies and procedures to ensure that children residing on Indian lands participate in programs and activities supported by impact aid funds on an equal basis with all other children. Parents of these children will be afforded an opportunity to present their views on these programs and activities, including the opportunity to make recommendations on the needs of those children and how the district may help these children realize the benefits of these programs and activities. Parents and Indian Tribes will be consulted and involved in the planning and development of these programs and activities and the relevant applications, evaluations, and program plans will be disseminated to the parents and the Indian Tribe.

It is the intent of the district to fully comply with all requirements of Title VIII (Impact Aid Program) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (formerly Public Law 81-874, amended 8/2/02), 34 CFR 222.94, and to that end, the Governing Board has adopted as policy these Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs). The IPPs by intent and by School Board action supersede all previous School Board action and are intended to bind the Governing Board, administration, and staff of the district.

## ATTESTATIONS

The Southeast Island 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 to the tribes and parents of children residing on eligible Indian lands. A copy of the current policies and procedures was attached to the FY \_\_\_\_\_ Impact Aid application.

The Southeast Island School District attests that it will provide 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 disseminate these responses to tribal leaders and parents of Indian children prior to the submission of their FY \_\_\_\_\_ Impact Aid application.

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

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

**POLICY 1:** The Southeast Island School District will disseminate relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information related to the 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.

## **Procedure 1**:

The District Administrator/designee will, as soon as reasonably possible after such information becomes available, but not later than one week in advance of any meeting, mail to Indian parents and Tribal officials a copy of the following documents:

- Impact Aid Fiscal Year \_\_\_\_\_application;
- Evaluation of all educational programs; and
- Plans for education programs the District intends to initiate or eliminate.

In addition, information regarding these materials will be included in the District's monthly newsletter, if appropriate.

Parents of Indian children, tribal officials and the public will be given notice of any and all meetings related to equal participation or the content of the educational program by including information about meeting times and locations in the questionnaire to be disseminated in the fall. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted School Board meeting.

The District will disseminate information and seek timely input regarding the following programs on its educational program (including, but not limited to): Title I, Part A, Title I, Part C, Title I, Part D, Title II, Part A, Title III, Part A, Title IV, Part A, Title IV, Part B, Title V, Part B subpart 2, Title VI, Part A, subpart 1, Title VII-Impact Aid programs, Johnson O'Malley programming.

The completed applications, evaluations, and program planning will be made available to parents of Indian children, Tribal officials, and the Indian Education Committee and a summary will be prepared and disseminated \_\_\_\_\_\_ days/weeks in advance of public hearings held in \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (enter months of meetings) 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 publically advertised by radio, advertisement, newsletter or in writing to allow all interested parties to attend. In addition, representatives from the District and Indian Education Committee will schedule meetings with the local tribe to seek input.

Parents of Indian children, tribal officials, the Indian Education 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.

Minutes from the Indian Education meetings will be posted on the District's website for all patrons and Tribal officials to review. This will allow for ongoing dissemination of information.

**POLICY (2):** The Southeast Island School District will provide an opportunity for the affected tribe or tribes 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 on how the District may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities.

- (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:**

In order to allow Indian parents and tribal officials to make commentary concerning (1) the needs of their children and the ways in which they can assist them in realizing the benefits of the education programs; (2) the overall operation of the District's education program; and (3) the degree of parental participation allowed in the same, the Board will mail parents of Indian children and Tribal officials a questionnaire requesting their input and recommendations in the fall and will thereafter hold an annual Board meeting where such commentary may be reviewed by Indian parents, Tribal officials, and the School Board.

Indian parents and Tribal officials will be given notice of any and all meetings by including in the above-referred questionnaire to be disseminated in the fall semester information as to the location of legally posted School Board notices. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted School Board meeting.

If participation in the survey results in a low return rate or the established meeting yield low participation by the parents of Indian children and tribal officials, the District will re-evaluate its plan and consult with parents of Indian children and tribal officials on ways to improve and enhance participation in the consultation process. The District may re-locate meetings or times to encourage participation.

The Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) of the District will meet \_\_\_\_\_\_ (monthly, quarterly, etc.) for the purpose of addressing comments and concerns of parents of Indian children regarding the District's educational programs and activities. The meeting agendas shall be posted and all meetings shall be open to the public allowing for tribal officials as well as parents of Indian children the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations for consideration.

A school board representative is a non-voting member of the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee). This representation allows for the discussion of needs of the students and ideas to be brought forward to both the Indian Education Committee as well as the School Board.

At each of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ (monthly, quarterly, etc) 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. In addition, two public hearings are scheduled in \_\_\_\_\_\_ (enter months) which are specifically devoted to addressing questions regarding federal programs. Based upon suggestions, preferred methods of communication as well as ways to maximize participation from tribal officials as well as parents of Indian children will be seriously considered.

Information will be included in student handbooks/enrollment packets regarding opportunities to provide input to the District.

The District and Indian Education Committee representatives will schedule meetings with the affected tribe or tribes to discuss ongoing programing goals.

**POLICY (3):** The Southeast Island 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.

- (i) Share relevant information related to Indian children's participation in the 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.

## **Procedure 3:**

The District will take the following measures to 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.

- A. The District will monitor Indian student participation in all academic and cocurricular activities.
- B. School district officials will review school data to assess the extent of Indian children's participation in the District's educational programs on an equal basis.
- C. The District will share its assessment of district funding, Indian student participation, related academic achievements and other related data will be shared with the parents of Indian children and tribal officials by (mail, email, posting at tribal offices, etc.).
- D. Parents of Indian children, tribal officials and other interested parties may express their views on participation through direct communication with the school district, at any school board meeting or to the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee)
- E. Copies of annual reports will be provided to tribal officials.

The District shall annually calculate from its records the ratio of Indian children compared to other children participating academic and co-curricular programs ("school data").

Annually, the District Administrator (or a designee), administrators, staff members, the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee), Indian parents, and Tribal officials will hold a meeting to assess the extent of Indian children's participation in the educational program. At such meeting, attendees will analyze the school data and Tribal/parental commentary to determine the extent of equality of Indian children's participation with other children.

The District will disseminate the results of the assessment of Indian participation to parents of Indian children and tribal officials within \_\_\_\_\_ (days/weeks) of publication by \_\_\_\_\_ (mail, e-mail, posting at tribal offices, etc.)

Parents of Indian children or tribal officials may comment on the results at regularly scheduled school board meetings, Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) meetings, directly to the school district by (phone, email, writing, etc.). In addition, parents of Indian children and tribal officials may comment in the fall and spring semester through a questionnaire requesting information concerning their views as to the extent of Indian children's participation in educational programs on an equal basis with other children.

The Southeast Island School Board will establish a task force or an ad hoc committee of Indian parents, Tribal officials, and staff members to assist in the modification of educational programs in order to ensure the equal participation of Indian children. Such committee shall make recommendations to the Board as to any needed modifications. The School Board shall give deference to the suggestions of the committee in voting on proposed modifications.

The District shall annually analyze participation rates of Indian children compared to other children in all aspects of the educational program and school sponsored activities.

The District's Superintendent and school staff, in conjunction with the Indian Education Committee, will review annual survey data and comments gathered from families and students. The results of the data and its comments will be shared with all interested parties in the district. 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 supports for various programs.

During the public hearings that are scheduled, the school district will gather information relating to Indian children's participation in the District's education programs and activities. This information will also be made available to the parents of Indian children, tribal officials and the Indian Education Committee (Parental Advisory Committee) via \_\_\_\_\_ (mail, email, posting at tribal offices, etc.)

If it is determined that there are gaps in Indian participation in the educational program or activities, the School Board in consultation with the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) and tribal officials, will modify its education program in such a way as to improve Indian participation.

**POLICY (4):** The Southeast Island School District will modify the IPPs if necessary, based upon the results of any assessment or input described in this document.

### **Procedure 4:**

During the organization meeting of the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee), the Indian Policies and Procedures will be reviewed and revised if necessary. Once this had happened, the document will be forwarded to the School Board as well as the tribal officials and parents of Indian children for review and consideration. If necessary, the Indian Education Committee may suggest revisions at other times of the year as appropriate. Any updates will be sent to parents of Indian children and tribal officials within \_\_\_\_\_\_ (days/weeks) of adoption by the School Board.

The School Board will establish an ad hoc committee of Indian parents and Tribal officials ("the Indian/Parent Committee") to annually review the components the Indian Policies and Procedures to ensure that they meet federal regulatory and statutory requirements.

The Indian/Parent Committee shall serve as a task force to review the meaningfulness of Indian input, to review the extent of opportunity for Indian input and to review the District's response to Indian commentary. The Committee will review the effectiveness of the District's methods of gathering the input of Indian parents and Tribal members; calculate the number of Indian suggestions which were actually implemented; permit Indian parents and Tribal officials to suggest more effective ways of communicating their views. If necessary, the Indian/Parent Committee shall make recommendations to the Board to modify its policies and procedures.

The District will hold a School Board meeting to modify policies and procedures if the Indian/Parent committee indicates such modification is necessary.

The District will notify parents of Indian children, tribal officials and the general public of any changes to the Indian Policies and Procedures by mail and posting at tribal offices.

**POLICY (5):** The Southeast Island School District will respond at least 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 District.

#### **Procedure 5:**

The District will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by the Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee), tribal officials, or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to all parties by mail or posting at tribal offices, prior to the submission of the IPPs by the District.

**POLICY (6):** The Southeast Island School District will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to the affected tribe or tribes.

#### **Procedure 6:**

The District will annually provide a copy of the current Indian Policies and Procedures to each local tribe by mail or posting at tribal offices.

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# **APPROVED BY:**

Sign & Print Name: Tribal Official

Sign & Print Name: IPP Committee Rep

Dated

Dated

Sign & Print Name: Superintendent Southeast Island School District

Sign & Print Name: School Board President Southeast Island School District Dated

Dated