

**Bennett County School District #3-1
Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP)
Impact Aid Program
2023-2024 School Year**

It is the intent of the Bennett County School District that all American Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the school district.

The Bennett County School District will consult with local tribal officials, parents of Indian children and other interested parties in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs), general education programs and activities. The policies and procedures will be reviewed annually and revisions will be made within 90 days of the determination that requirements are not being adequately met.

Attestations

The Bennett County 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 2023-2024 Impact Aid application.

The Bennett County School District 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 submission of their FY 2023-2024 Impact Aid application.

Indian Policies and Procedures

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

Policy 1: *The Bennett County School District will disseminate relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information related to the education program and activities with sufficient advance notice to allow tribal officials and parents of Indian children the opportunity to review and make recommendations. [34CFR222.94(a)(1)]*

Procedures:

The completed applications, evaluations and program planning will be made available to the local Tribal officials, parents of American Indian children and other interested parties 1 week in advance of the public hearing that is held in November.

Before the public hearing, the documents mentioned will be posted on the district website. The Oglala Sioux Tribe and parents will be notified via email and through our automated Campus messenger service that sends phone, email and text messages and/or through a letter sent home with students. These hearings will be publicly advertised in the official school newspaper, in the school Business Office and also on the school website, Facebook page and APP. The Oglala Sioux Tribe will be sent an email through the Tribal Education Director to inform them of the Impact Aid hearing. Families will be notified of the upcoming hearing through our automated Campus messenger service that sends phone, email and text messages and/or through a letter sent home with their students indicating the time, location of the meeting and where the documents can be located

The public hearing will be held to allow tribal officials and all parents the opportunity to comment and offer suggestions on the development of the Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP's) and on any segments of the educational programs and activities at the BCSD.

Following the public hearing, the LEA will review the written minutes and focus on any issues that arise. This review will be placed on the agenda for the first scheduled meeting in November of each year. All meetings are open to the public.

Minutes from this hearing will be placed on the district website for all patrons and Tribal officials to review. This will allow for ongoing dissemination of information.

All information dealing with educational programs, revenues and disbursements will be published on a monthly basis.

The following are disseminated to Tribal officials or parents of Native American children:

- A. Impact Aid application and Indian Policies and Procedures
- B. Any program plans for educational programs that the school plans to initiate or eliminate
- C. Survey sheets for eligible recipients are distributed to new families in August/September of each calendar year. Efforts will be made to insure there is adequate time to review and provide feedback.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe and parents will be notified of the posting via email and through our automated Campus messenger service that sends phone, email and text messages and/or through a letter sent home with students.

Policy 2: *The Bennett County School District will provide an opportunity for Tribal officials and parents of Indian children to provide their views on the educational programs and activities, including recommendations on the needs for their children and on how the district may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities. (34CFR222.94(a)(2)).*

Procedures:

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 American Indian students. Also, throughout the school year meetings are held to discuss and seek timely input regarding the following programs (including, but not limited to): Title 1, Part A; Title 1, Part C; Title 1, Part D; Title II, Part A; Title III, Part A; Title IV, Part A; Title IV, Part B; Title V, Part B; Title VI, Part A and Title VII-Impact Aid.

In addition, a public hearing is scheduled for each November. Parent involvement meetings are held regularly throughout the school year. These scheduled meetings are advertised on our district website, Facebook page and APP and also in our monthly newsletter that is sent home in elementary folders and is available to all middle school and high school students at their respective building. Campus Messenger may also be used to inform parents of the time and location of the scheduled meetings. Parents of American Indian children are encouraged to be actively involved in the planning and implementation of education programs and activities. This is accomplished through the Indian Education Committee, parent advisory committees; special committees appointed by the Superintendent and identified items on the agenda during school board meetings.

The Indian Education Parent Committee will meet twice a year (September/October and February/March) to review assessment data and to discuss the development or modification of educational programs and services and activities to ensure equal participation of Indian students. These meetings are open to the public. Minutes from the Indian Education Parent Committee meetings will be posted on the district's website. The Oglala Sioux Tribe and parents will be notified of the posting via email and through our automated Campus messenger service that sends phone, email and text messages and/or through a letter sent home with students. This will allow for ongoing dissemination of information,

Surveys are conducted two times a year at parent teacher conferences seeking input on the educational programs and activities. Based on survey results, the method of communication may be modified to ensure maximum participation. If the consultation participation by parents of Indian children and tribes is low, the Bennett County School District will re-evaluate the process by consulting with the parents of Indian students and the Tribal officials for input and may consider changing the communication method and or time of the meetings.

General information concerning school programs is also included in student enrollment packets and in the monthly school newsletter.

Policy 3: *The Bennett County School District will annually assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in the district's educational programs and activities (34CFR222.94(a)(3).*

Procedures

A needs assessment will be conducted on an annual basis. A review will be made of this data and be available to all interested parties. This will include a participation assessment of academic programs as well as co-curricular activities. The participation assessment will be available on our website and also upon request. All information is included on our consolidated application which is publicly available on the South Dakota Department of Education website. This consolidated application and also the participation assessment will be shared with the Oglala Lakota Tribal Education department at a scheduled meeting in which we meet to discuss and request approval. The information is sent to the Tribal Education director at least 1 week in advance of the scheduled meeting. This information is also available prior to the annual hearing held in November. At this time, we have found this to be an adequate time frame for review.

It is the policy of the Bennett County School District to allow any eligible student regardless of race, color or creed to participate in all regular educational programs and activities. All students will receive equal and fair treatment.

Policy 4: *The Bennett County 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)).*

Procedures

The district will actively consult with Tribal officials, initiated through the Tribal Education Director, and parents of American Indian children in the planning and development of educational programs assisted with federal funds. This is done during the annual public hearing in November as well as parent involvement meetings held for other federal programs mentioned in Policy 1 and also through the Indian Education Committee meetings held twice annually.

All parents will continue to have an opportunity to make recommendations concerning the needs of their children and the ways they can assist their children in realizing the benefits to be derived from the educational programs and activities. These meeting dates and times will be posted on the district website calendar, Facebook page and APP and in the monthly District newsletter as well as sent home with students on a regular basis. Campus messenger may also be used to inform parents of meetings and parent involvement activities.

Recommended changes to the IPP's will be evaluated by the school Superintendent and members of the Indian Education committee. The Bennett County School Board will decide on all recommended revisions to these IPPs. Any changes by the Bennett County School board will become effective immediately upon adoption and will be posted on the school website. Families will be notified through Campus Messenger and/ or a letter sent home letting them know where the changes may be viewed.

Policy 5: *The Bennett County School District will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by Tribal officials or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to all parties prior to the submission of the IPPs by the District (34CRF222.94(a)(5)).*

Procedures

The Superintendent, Administrative team and building level staff at the annual data retreats as well as the tri-annual data digs, will review parent and student input from surveys. This information will be available at the annual hearing held in November.

Annually, prior to submission of the IPP's by the District, any concerns or changes in programming will be documented on the school website, disseminated to the Tribal officials via the Tribal Education director's office by email or USPS. Parents of Indian children will be informed through Campus Messenger and/ or a letter sent home informing them where the information may be viewed. All concerns brought forth during the annual hearing or in the Indian Education committee meetings will be acted on by the Bennett County School Board in an expedient manner. All meeting minutes will be placed on the district website and will also be kept on file at the Superintendent's office.

Policy 6: *The Bennett County School District will annually provide a copy of the IPP that is reviewed annually to the Oglala Sioux Tribe. (34CRF222.94(a)(6)).*

Procedures

The Bennett County School District will annually provide a copy of the current IPP's to designated Oglala Sioux Tribal officials, initiated through the Tribal Education Director at least 1 week prior to the annual hearing in November and prior to submitting the Impact Aid Application. The IPP may be sent by the USPS or by email, whichever is preferred by the Tribal Education Director. The IPP's will be placed on the district website and be readily available at the district office to all interested parties.

Approved by the Bennett County School Board on the following dates:

November 20, 2017

July 16, 2018

July 18, 2019

November 18, 2019

July 22, 2020

November 15, 2021

July 21, 2022

July 20, 2023
