

## **Relations with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council**

(Indian Policies and Procedures)

### **Introduction**

The RE-1 School District desires to adopt policies and procedures in accordance with applicable federal law. To this end, this policy and accompanying regulation are developed for the purpose of ensuring the participation in Indian parents and tribes in the education process and ensuring that Indian children have the opportunity to participate in the district's programs on an equal basis with all other children who attend the district's schools.

The RE-1 School District currently claims entitlement for services rendered to Indian children attending RE-1 district schools while residing on Indian lands. As a result of the attendance of Indian children at RE-1 district schools, the district intends that this policy and accompanying regulation (IPPs) shall facilitate opportunities for meaningful involvement and participation of the parents of Indian students and Indian tribes and their officials in the education process.

### **Purpose**

The IPPs are intended to:

1. Ensure that Indian students are provided with educational opportunities (including extra-curricular activities) on an equal basis with their non-Indian peers;
2. Facilitate and promote respect, communication, interaction, and cooperation between the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation and the RE-1 School District;
3. Create and foster opportunities for meaningful involvement and participation by the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and parents of Indian students living on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation in the design, implementation, and evaluation of all programs; and
4. Further the district's commitment to excellence in education for all students.

### **Standards**

In accordance with federal law and the Impact Aid Handbook, the district shall:

1. Give tribal officials and parents of Indian children an opportunity to comment on whether Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in the district's educational programs and activities.

Annually, the fourth Tuesday in October, the RE-1 school board shall fully devote one meeting to a discussion about the equal participation of Indian children in school programs and activities. A Tribal official designated by the Tribe will speak on behalf of the Tribe. The meeting will also include designated time for public comment to provide parents of Indian children an opportunity to comment on whether Indian children participate on an equal basis. Parents of Indian children may also submit comments in writing to the Board to be considered during the annual IPP meeting. These comments must be received three (3) days prior to the meeting. The district will respond in writing to comments received from the Tribe and parents of Indian children. This response will

be posted on the district website and provided to the Tribe to make available at the Education Department.

In addition, Tribal officials (Tribal officials are used herein shall mean all members of the Tribal Council, the executive officer, the director of education, and the student support coordinators) and parents of Indian children living on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation are encouraged to attend all RE-1 Board meetings and may request to be heard by the Board on issues affecting the education of Indian students in any matter. Any request to be placed on the Board's agenda must be made in writing seven (7) days prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting. Parents of Indian children living on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation and Tribal officials may address the school board during "Citizens Address the Board" period of any school board meeting.

All Board meetings are open to the public, subject to executive session as provided by law.

2. Assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children served by the district.

Annually, the fourth Tuesday in October, the RE-1 school board shall fully devote one meeting to a discussion about the equal participation of Indian children in school programs and activities. A Tribal official designated by the Tribe will speak on behalf of the Tribe.

A detailed report shall be made available to the Education Department and parents of Indian children 30 days in advance of the annual meeting and this report shall be disaggregated to allow for a comparison of the performance of Ute Mountain Ute students, other Native American students, and the general student population.

The detailed report shall include the following information regarding the performance of Indian students:

- (a) State and district assessment results;
- (b) Attendance information;
- (c) Number of expulsions and suspensions;
- (d) Discipline statistics as reported by the buildings;
- (e) Drop-out and graduation rates;
- (f) Participation in special education programs by number and percentage;
- (g) LEP – those tested and receiving services;
- (h) LEP – description of program and services;
- (i) Participation in sports and extracurricular activities;
- (j) Budget information including information on programs assisted with Title VI funds (Indian Ed funds).

3. Modify its educational program as necessary to ensure that Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children served by the district.

If, at the conclusion of the annual IPP meeting, either the district or Tribal officials believe that more information is needed, or concludes that Indian students are not participating in school programs or activities on an equal basis, a Task Force shall be established by the school board to investigate and make recommendations regarding the issues raised.

The Task Force may be charged with:

- (a) Developing recommendations to facilitate the equal participation of Indian students in school programs and activities;
  - (b) Gathering information necessary to determine the issue of equal participation;
  - (c) Developing recommendations to promote and facilitate consultation and involvement of Indian parents, and Tribal officials in the development of school programs and activities;
  - (d) Any other task necessary to improve educational opportunities for Indian students.
4. Disseminate applications, evaluations, program plans and other information related to the district's educational programs in a timely manner to allow sufficient advance notice for the tribe and parents of Indian children to have an opportunity to review the materials, provide input on the needs of Indian children, and to recommend ways the district can help Indian children benefit from the district's educational programs and activities.

Relevant applications and program plans and other information related to the district's education program and activities that will be discussed by the Board shall be made available on the district website along with the Board meeting notification. Parents of Indian children living on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation and Tribal officials may address the school board during "Citizens Address the Board" period of any school board meeting.

All Board meetings are open to the public, subject to executive session as provided by law.

A detailed evaluation report as described herein, available at the Education Department, shall be disaggregated to allow for a comparison of the performance of Ute Mountain Ute students, other Native American students, and the general student population.

5. Gather information concerning the Tribe and Indian parents' views on education issues, including the district's educational program and activities and recommendations on the needs of their children and how the district may help those children realize the benefits of the district's educational programs and activities. In addition, the Board shall gather

information from the Tribe and Indian parents' views on the frequency, location, and time of meetings.

Annually as part of the IPP meeting the district Board shall solicit information from the Tribe and Indian parents regarding the frequency, location, and time of meetings and shall make modifications to the method and time for soliciting Indian views, if necessary, to ensure maximum participation of Tribes and parents of Indian children.

All Board meetings are open to the public, subject to executive session as provided by law. Parents of Indian children living on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation and Tribal officials may address the school board during "Citizens Address the Board" period of any school board meeting.

It is the policy of the RE-1 school district to promote and encourage parental participation in the educational process. Indian parents are invited and welcomed to participate on district and school building accountability special committees, which include parents.

6. Notify Indian parents and the Tribe of the location and times of meetings.

All Board meetings are posted on the district website at [cortez.k12.co.us](http://cortez.k12.co.us). Notice of the annual IPP meeting will be posted on the district website and mailed to the Tribal Council and Tribal Department of Education 30 days in advance. Notices of meeting times for school accountability groups and other parent meetings shall be communicated in writing from the school to the parents.

7. Consult and involve tribal officials and parents of Indian children in the planning and development of the district's educational programs and activities.

It is the policy of the RE-1 school district to promote and encourage parental participation in the educational process. Indian parents are invited and welcomed to participate on district and school building accountability special committees, which include parents.

At the annual IPP meeting, the Tribe and district shall discuss how Indian parents and Tribal officials shall participate in the planning and development of the education programs designed to serve the needs of Indian students.

8. A copy of the District's IPPs will be posted on the district website and shared annually with the Tribe as part of the IPP meeting notification. The district will modify the district's IPPs, if necessary, based upon input from the Tribe and parents.

If, at the conclusion of the annual IPP meeting, either the district or Tribal officials believe that more information is needed, or concludes that Indian students are not participating in school programs or activities on an equal basis, a Task Force shall be established by the school board to investigate and make recommendations regarding the issues raised.

These standards shall be implemented as described in this policy and accompanying regulation.

Adopted: March 11, 1986  
Revised: January 24, 1989  
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Reviewed: October 22, 2013  
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Revised: December 8, 2015  
Revised: November 14, 2017

LEGAL REFS: 20 U.S.C §7704 (Impact Aid Program)  
34 C.F.R. §222.94 (IPP policy and procedures requirements)

CROSS REFS:

AE, Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment  
BE, School Board Meetings  
BEDA\*, Notification of Board Meetings  
BEDB, Agenda  
BEDH\* Public Participation at Board Meetings  
IC/ICA, School Year/School Calendar  
IHBD\*, Compensatory Education  
KBA, District Title I Parent Involvement