

Indian Policy and Procedures

Hot Springs School District #14-J

2024-2025

It is the intent of the Hot Springs School District that all Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the school district. To this end, the Hot Springs School District will consult with local tribal officials and parents of Indian children in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs), general education programs, and activities. These 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 Hot Springs 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 2026 Impact Aid application.

The Hot Springs 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 the submission of their FY 2026 Impact Aid application.

Indian Policies and Procedures

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

Policy 1: The LEA will disseminate relevant applications, evaluations, program plans and information related to the LEA's education program and activities with sufficient advance notice to allow tribes and parents of Indian children the opportunity to review and make recommendations. [34CFR222.94(a)(1)]

Procedure 1: We will present to Tribal Council by January 31, 2025 the Annual Report Card, Assessment Information, Data, Policy, Procedures, Programs, Systems and give the Tribal Leaders an opportunity to respond and question information presented. We will also present this same information to Tribal Education, Indian Education Committee (I.E.C.) and Parent Teacher Conference. 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 Parent Committee and Tribal Education officials a copy of the following documents:

- Impact Aid FY 2026 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 Quarterly newsletter, if appropriate. Policy and Procedures will be made available at all open house and beginning of the year events. All systems and programs will be presented that has a dedicated system.

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 Board meeting. Meetings are conducted the second Wednesday of each month in the public library at 7:00pm.

The Hot Springs School 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 five days in advance of public hearings in held in September and October 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 publicly advertised by our web site, posted downtown as part of our monthly board meetings to allow all interested parties to attend. In addition, representatives from the District and Indian Education Committee will schedule meetings with tribal council and Tribal Education 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 Hot Springs School District will provide an opportunity for the _____
_____ Tribe 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. [34CFR222 .94(a)(2)]

(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: We will present to Tribal Council by January 31, 2025 the Annual Report Card, Assessment Information, Data, Policy, Procedures, Programs, Systems and give the Tribal Leaders an opportunity to respond and question information presented. We will also present this same information to Tribal Education, Indian Education Committee (I.E.C.), During Community Showcase, Paper Day and Parent Teacher Conference. 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. 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 Board notices. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted 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 School 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 Hot Springs School District may re-locate meetings or times to encourage participation. The Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) of the Hot Springs School District will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm in the high school library for the purpose of addressing comments and concerns of parents of Indian children regarding the District's educational programs and activities. The meeting agendas are posted and all meetings are 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 the needs of the students and ideas to be brought forward to both the Indian Education Committee as well as the School Board. (Web page, Email, Facebook, In-Person Meetings, Mailings, Paper Reports, Presentation, PowerPoint)

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 Indian students. In addition, two public hearings are scheduled in September and October, 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 Salish Kootenai Tribe to discuss ongoing programming goals. The school presents our district report card, programs and goals annually to the tribal council.

POLICY (3): The Hot Springs 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. [34CFR222.94(a)(3)]

- (i) Share relevant information related to Indian children's participation in the LEA'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: We will present to Tribal Council by January 31, 2025 the Annual Report Card, Assessment Information, Data, Policy, Procedures, Programs, Systems and give the Tribal Leaders an opportunity to respond and question information presented. We will also present this same information to Tribal Education, Indian Education Committee (I.E.C.), During Community Showcase, Paper Day and Parent Teacher Conference. The Hot Springs School 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 Hot Springs School District will monitor Indian student participation in all academic and co-curricular 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 Hot Springs School 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 (email, presentation, and hard copies)

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. (Web page, Email, Facebook, In-Person Meetings, Mailings, Paper Reports, Presentation, PowerPoint)

The Hot Springs School District shall annually calculate from its records the ratio of Indian children compared to other children participating academic and co-curricular programs.

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 Hot Springs School District will disseminate the results of the assessment of Indian participation to parents of Indian children and tribal officials within one week of publication by presentation to tribal government and parent committee. (Email, Posting, Presentation).

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 Hot Springs School Board will work with Indian Education 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 Hot Springs School Board shall give deference to the suggestions of the committee in voting on proposed modifications.

The Hot Springs School 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 Hot Springs School 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 in September and October, the school district will gather information relating to Indian children's participation in the LEA'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 presentation and email to Tribal Education, web site, posting at tribal offices, etc.).

If it is determined that there are gaps in Indian participation in the educational program or activities, the Hot Springs 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 Hot Springs 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)]

Procedure 4: We will present to Tribal Council by January 31, 2025 the Annual Report Card, Assessment Information, Data, Policy, Procedures, Programs, Systems and give the Tribal Leaders an opportunity to respond and question information presented. We will also present this same information to Tribal Education, Indian Education Committee (I.E.C.), During Community Showcase, Paper Day and Parent Teacher Conference. The school will use survey monkey on the web as well as a mailed survey home to give parents and tribal leadership an opportunity to respond. 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 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 Board notices. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted Board meeting.

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 Hot Springs 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 one month of adoption by the Hot Springs School Board.

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

The Hot Springs School District will notify parents of Indian children, tribal officials and the general public of any changes to the Indian Policies and Procedures by (mail, email, web).

POLICY (5) : The Hot Springs 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 LEA. [34CRF222 .94(a)(5)]

Procedure 5: We will present to Tribal Council by January 31, 2025 the Annual Report Card, Assessment Information, Data, Policy, Procedures, Programs, Systems and give the Tribal Leaders an opportunity to respond and question information presented. We will also present this same information to Tribal Education, Indian Education Committee (I.E.C.), During Community Showcase, Paper Day and Parent Teacher Conference. The school will use survey monkey on the web as well as a mailed survey home to give parents and tribal leadership an opportunity to respond. 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 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 Board notices. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted Board meeting. (Web page, Email, Facebook, In-Person Meetings, Mailings, Paper Reports, Presentation, PowerPoint) Following the annual Tribal Presentation the council will have the opportunity to ask questions or ask for additional information. The administrative team will answer questions and gather any additional information that the council may request in writing or email. Follow up information will be delivered in one week following the presentation.

POLICY (6): The Hot Springs School District will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to the affected tribe or tribes. [34CR F222.94 (a)(6)]

We will present to Tribal Council by January 31, 2025 the Annual Report Card, Assessment Information, Data, Policy, Procedures, Programs, Systems and give the Tribal Leaders an opportunity to respond and question information presented. 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 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 Board notices. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted Board meeting.

Board Approval:

Board Chairperson Signature : _____ Date: 12/11/2024