

## **Native American/Indian Policies and Procedures**

### **Liberty High School District**

2021-2022 School Year

It is the intent of the Liberty High School District (LEA) that all Native American/Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the school district. To this end, Liberty High School District will consult with local tribal leaders and parents of Native American/Indian children in the planning and development of Native American/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**

Liberty High attests that it has established Native American/Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs) as required in section 7004 of the Impact Aid law for any children claimed who reside on eligible Native American/Indian lands. The IPPs have been adequately disseminated to the tribes and parents of children residing on eligible Native American/Indian lands. A copy of the current policies and procedures is attached to the FY 2021 Impact Aid application.

Liberty High attests that it has provided a copy of written responses to comments, concerns and recommendations received from tribal leaders and parents of Native American/Indian children through the Native American/Indian policies and procedures consultation process and disseminated these responses to tribal leaders and parents of Native American/Indian children prior to the submission of their FY 2021 Impact Aid application.

### **Indian Policies and Procedures**

TRIBE's PREFERRED METHOD(s) OF COMMUNICATION with the tribe(s) is through email and/or phone call as provided on their updated Tribal Staff Directory. The preferred method of parent communication is through any of the following: packet sent home with student, parent email, parent text, mail or phone call to set up appointment.

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 educational program and activities with sufficient advance notice to allow tribes and parents of Native American/Indian children the opportunity to review and make recommendations.

[34CFR222.94(a)(1)]

**Procedure 1:**

The LEA will, as soon as reasonably possible after such information becomes available, but not later than 14 calendar days/two weeks in advance of LEA December board meeting, disseminate by mail, email and/or send home packet via student, to Native American/Indian parents and Tribes a copy of the following documents:

- Native American/Indian Policies & Procedures (IPP's);
- Impact Aid evaluation questionnaire of all educational programs, which will include updates of new or discontinued activities for review or comment;
- Impact Aid Survey form

Parents of Native American/Indian children, tribal officials and the public will be given notice of any and all meetings at least 14 calendar days/two weeks in advance related to the above documents which includes equal participation and/or the content of the educational program by including information about meeting times and locations in the Impact Aid evaluation questionnaire to be disseminated in the fall, after Impact Aid trainings and updates. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall also be posted in the same manner as a legally posted LEA Governing Board meetings (public posting at Gila County Superintendent's Office, Gila Community College, Liberty High School and school website). A summary of comments and responses received on the above documents will be made available at the January Liberty Governing Board meeting (notification as described above). This will allow parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes, as well as the public, time to review, discuss and provide comments on all documents and information received.

**POLICY (2):** The LEA will provide an opportunity for tribes and parents of Native American/Indian children to provide their views on the LEA's educational program and activities, including recommendations on the needs of their children and on how the LEA may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities. [34CFR222 .94(a)(2)] As part of this requirement, the LEA will:

- (i) Notify tribes and the parents of Native American/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 Native American/Indian views, if necessary, to ensure the maximum participation of tribes and parents of Native American/Indian children.

**Procedure 2:**

(2.1) The LEA will make the following opportunities available for parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes to provide input on the educational program and activities:

In order to allow Native American/ Indian parents and tribes to provide input on educational programs and activities 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 LEA's educational program; and (3) the degree of parental participation allowed in the same, the LEA will disseminate by mail, email and/or packets sent home via student to parents of Native American/Indian children and tribal officials an Impact Aid evaluation questionnaire requesting their input, comments and recommendations. This will be disseminated in the fall not later than 14 calendar days/two weeks in advance of the LEA December board meeting, and will thereafter hold an annual LEA Governing Board meeting where such commentary may be reviewed by Native American/Indian parents, Tribal officials, and the LEA Governing Board.

(2.2) Native American/Indian parents and Tribal officials will be given the opportunity to submit recommendations and/or comments on the Impact Aid evaluation questionnaire disseminated annually in the fall. Recommendations and/or comments written on the questionnaire can be returned to the school director or designee, communicated via email or phone call to the school director or designee, and/or by attending LEA Governing Board meetings in December and/or January. Native American/Indian parents and tribes will be given notice of any and all related meetings. Locations, dates and times of these meetings are described within the Impact Aid evaluation questionnaire described above and shall also be posted in the same manner as a legally posted board meeting.

(2.3) The tribe's preferred method(s) of communication as stated at the top of the document is through email and/or phone call as provided on their updated Tribal Staff Directory. The LEA will communicate first by email and follow-up with a second email and/or phone call. The preferred method of parent communication is through any of the following: packet sent home with student, parent email, mail or phone call to set up appointment.

Once the preferred method of communication has been chosen by each entity/individual (tribe and parents of Native American/Indian children), it will be used throughout the consultation process. Any changes to the method will happen through additional consultations with tribe members and parents. The LEA will, to the greatest extent possible, take the tribe's preferred method of

communication into consideration for all correspondence with the tribe and the parents of Native/American Indian children.

(2.4) If the consultation participation by parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes is low, the LEA will re-evaluate its consultation process. Specifically, the LEA will take the following measures to improve or enhance participation:

- Consult with parents of Native/American children and tribes
- Change communication method
- Change time of meeting
- Consider the re-location of meeting place

**POLICY (3):** The LEA will, at least annually, assess the extent to which Native American/Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Native American/Indian children in the LEA's educational program and activities. [34CFR222.94(a)(3)]  
As part of this requirement, the LEA will:

(i) Share relevant information related to Native American/Indian children's participation in the LEA's educational program and activities with tribes and parents of Native American/Indian children; and

(ii) Allow tribes and parents of Native American/Indian children the opportunity and time to review and comment on whether Native American/Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Native American/Indian children.

**Procedure 3:**

The LEA will take the following measures to annually assess the extent to which Native American/Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Native American/Indian children in the LEA's educational program and activities.

A. The LEA shall annually calculate from its records the ratio of Native American/Indian children compared to non-Native American/Indian children participating in all academic and co-curricular programs.

B. The LEA will disseminate its assessment of Native American/Indian children participation compared to non-Native American/Indian children and any other related data with their parents and tribes by sending home with student, emailing, texting and/or school website link/posting. This information will be shared at least 7 days/1 week in advance of the January LEA Governing Board meeting to discuss the extent to which Native American/Indian children participate with non-Native American/Indian children.

C. Parents of Native American/Indian children, tribes and other interested parties may express their views on participation through direct communication with the LEA, or at any LEA Governing Board meeting.

D. If it is determined that there are gaps in Native American/Indian participation in the educational programs or activities, the LEA Governing Board in consultation with the tribes and parents of Native American/Indian children, will modify its educational programs in such a way as to improve Native American/Indian participation.

**POLICY (4): The LEA 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:**

(4.1) The LEA Governing Board will schedule a meeting in December and January to discuss the content of the IPPs, equal participation, and educational programs and activities. Parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes will be notified via packets sent home with students, mail, email, and/or school website regarding these meetings and their ability to submit comment.

(4.2) The LEA Governing Board, parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes will evaluate all recommendations for changes to these IPPs.

(4.3) The LEA Governing Board will consider all recommendations from parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes and decide on all recommended revisions to these IPPs.

(4.4) Any changes by the LEA Governing Board will become effective immediately upon adoption at the January LEA Governing Board meeting where the date and time has been included in the dissemination of the Impact Aid evaluation questionnaire and posted in the same manner as all legally posted LEA Governing Board meetings (public posting at Gila County Superintendent's Office, Gila Community College, Liberty High School and school website).

(4.5) The LEA will disseminate copies of the revised IPPs to the tribe and parents of Native American/Indian children by packets sent home with students, mail, email and/or posting on school website with 30 days of adoption of the LEA Governing Board.

**POLICY (5)** : The LEA will respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by tribes or parents of Native American/Indian children, and disseminate the responses to the tribe and parents of Native American/Indian children prior to the submission of the IPPs by the LEA. [34CRF222.94(a)(5)]

**Procedure 5:**

The LEA will annually keep track of and assemble all comments and suggestions received through the various consultation processes by parents of Native American/Indian children and tribes by keeping a log of all dated comments, suggestions and responses for organization of a narrative report and assessment. The LEA will disseminate this report and assessment to all Native American/Indian children and tribes through packet sent home with student, email, and/or posting on school website prior to the submission of the IPPs by the LEA.

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

The LEA will annually provide a copy of the current Native American/Indian Policies and Procedures to the affected tribe or tribes by mail and/or email. They will also be available for review on the school website. These methods will be completed prior to submitting the Impact Aid Application.

LHS Governing Board Approval Date 11/18/20

LEA IPP Approval Date 11/18/20