

## **Todd County School District Policy: ABA**

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING**

In order to fulfill the requirements of the Federal Impact Aid Law, 35 CFR, Subpart G (hereafter referred to as the impact aid law), and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Code, Ordinance No. 91-04, the Board of Education of the Todd County School District has adopted the following policy. This policy relates to the requirements in the impact aid law and Tribal ordinance No. 91-04 to ensure tribal and parental involvement in the education of those students of the Todd County School District who live on Indian lands and are claimed for payment under the impact aid law. The policy also relates to the requirements in the impact aid law to ensure a cooperative working relationship between the Todd County School District and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. It should be noted that the present boundaries of the school district and the Rosebud Indian Reservation are conterminous.

This policy will give parents and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe the opportunity to work with the district to review Indian children participation in district educational programs and to review how the programs meet Indian children's needs. This policy will give parents and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe the opportunity to comment upon how they could assist their children in benefiting from the school district's programs and upon the effectiveness of parental participation in the district. This policy will give parents and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe the opportunity to work with the school district to plan and develop educational programs that will improve their children performance in the school district.

1. Indian children claimed by the school district in its count must participate on an equal basis in the school program with all other children educated by the school district. This is to prevent disparity within a school or in the various schools of the district. The Todd County superintendent, on an annual basis, shall work with the Tribal Education Director to gather data and prepare a report, January and June, which reflects the participation of Indian children on an equal basis with all children of the Todd County Schools. This report will include data which reflects the performance and needs of Indian and non-Indian children in the school district. This report will be mailed\* to members of the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Council and to the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department; a synopsis will be mailed to each household in the school district.

Rosebud Sioux Tribe officials, the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Education Department, and parents of Indian children shall be provided an

opportunity to comment on the participation of Indian children on an equal basis in school programs. They shall also be provided an opportunity to comment on the performance and needs of Indian children in the school district. At least two school board meetings annually, one in December and one in May will focus on this issue. Notice of these meetings will be mailed\* to each household in the school district.

Educational programs will be modified as necessary to ensure that Indian children participate on an equal basis with all other students in the Todd County School District. They will also be modified as necessary to improve the performance and address the needs of ALL students in the Todd County School District.

2. At least one school board meeting (in July) will focus on reviewing and evaluating the current budget. At least one school board meeting (in May) will focus on planning for the next year's budget, and this planning meeting will be held before the funding application has been submitted. The Board of Education shall invite the Rosebud Sioux Education Director to these meetings and shall allow the Tribal Education Director to make recommendations regarding the budget to the school board on behalf of the Tribe.
3. The Todd County School District shall disseminate by mail\* to tribal officials, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, and parents of Indian children the following:
  - a. Impact Aid Law application;
  - b. all evaluations of educational programs;
  - c. any program plans to initiate or eliminate programs in the schools;
  - d. summaries of a Board of Education Impact Aid planning schedule, including the location, dates, and times of each meeting that the school district will conduct to gain recommendations and views from tribal officials, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, and parents, along with agendas for Board of Education meetings will be published in the official newspaper, the Todd County Tribune, as well as the District's monthly newsletter, the Dreamcatcher; and
  - e. a copy of the district's annual budget, as published in the official newspaper, and a copy of the District's annual impact aid funding information, will be mailed to each tribal council member and the

Tribal Education Department prior to the annual budget hearing. From these copies, the percentage of the district's total funding attributable to impact aid funds will be available. At the annual budget hearing, the Todd County superintendent shall make a presentation to the school board and the public with an analysis of the budget and program planning. An opportunity for input from tribal officials and parents of Indian children will be afforded during the course of this budget hearing.

4. During each regular Board of Education meeting, held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month, time is always set aside for patrons to address the Board of Education regarding the educational programs of the Todd County District. Every effort will be made to ensure that the parents of Indian children, tribal officials, and the Tribal Education Department, will have adequate time and opportunity to express their views in reference to items 3. A, B, C, D, and E above.
5. No later than the 4th Monday in December, and May of each year, the Todd County Board of Education shall schedule, as a part of a regular Board of Education meeting, time on the agenda for the express purpose of permitting tribal officials, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, and parents of Indian children the opportunity to:
  - a. comment on the participation of Indian children on an equal basis in the Todd County School District with all other children, and on the performance and needs of Indian children in the Todd County School District;
  - b. comment on any evaluation of education programs offered by the Todd County School District;
  - c. provide meaningful input regarding the implementation or elimination of educational programs; and
  - d. make recommendations regarding the performance and needs of Indian children.
6. Rosebud Sioux Tribe officials, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, and parents of Indian children are to be actively consulted and involved regularly in the planning and development of education programs assisted with funds provided under the impact aid law. This consultation and involvement shall be accomplished through analysis and recommendation from the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, upon direction of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, parent advisory committees,

ad hoc committees, task forces, and discussions during regular Board of Education meetings. This consultation and involvement shall also be accomplished through providing the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department and appointed tribal leaders or officials designated in writing by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe for the specific consultation of plans, reports or applications for:

- a. data on student participation, performance, and needs;
- b. budget breakdown of impact aid funding;
- c. modifying education programs;
- d. Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies);
- e. Title I, Part C (Education of Migratory Children);
- f. Title I, Part D (Preventions and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent or At-Risk);
- g. Title II, Part A (Supporting Effective Instruction);
- h. Title III, Part A (English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act);
- i. Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants);
- j. Title IV, Part B (21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers);
- k. Title V, Part B, subpart 2 (Rural and Low-Income School Program); and
- l. Title VI, Part A, subpart 1 (Indian Education Formula Grant to Local Education Agencies).

This consultation and involvement shall further be accomplished by receiving and considering the recommendations of the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Council and appointed tribal leaders or officials designated in writing by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe for the specific consultation of plans, reports or applications for:

- a. data on student participation, performance, and needs;

- b. budget breakdown of impact aid funding;
  - c. modifying education programs;
  - d. Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies);
  - e. Title I, Part C (Education of Migratory Children);
  - f. Title I, Part D (Preventions and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent or At-Risk);
  - g. Title II, Part A (Supporting Effective Instruction);
  - h. Title III, Part A (English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act);
  - i. Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants);
  - j. Title IV, Part B (21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers); and
  - k. Title V, Part B, subpart 2 (Rural and Low-Income School Program).
7. Through the utilization of the procedures outlined in 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 above tribal officials, through the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, and parents of Indian children will be afforded the opportunity to provide input and make recommendations concerning:
- a. the participation, performance, and needs of their children; and
  - b. the ways by which they can assist their children in realizing the benefits to be derived from the educational programs.
8. Through the utilization of the procedures outlined in 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 above tribal officials, through the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department, and parents of Indian children will be provided with the opportunity to present their overall views on the education program in the Todd County School District. This opportunity to present views shall include:
- a. the operation of the Todd County School District's education program; and

- b. the degree of and effectiveness of input from the Indian community in the Todd County School District.

The board shall receive the recommendations of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department regarding the degree and effectiveness of the input from the Indian community. The board will respond to these recommendations at an open school board meeting within ninety (90) days.

- 9. The Todd County Board of Education will, on an annual basis, review these policies and procedures to ensure that:
  - a. these policies and procedures meet the minimum standards of the impact aid law and Tribal Ordinance No. 91-04;
  - b. these policies and procedures continue to provide for an adequate level of Indian participation and for improvements in Indian student performance and opportunities to meet the needs of Indian students;
  - c. if it is found that these policies and procedures do not meet the requirements, the Todd County School District shall amend these policies and procedures to conform with the standards of the impact aid law and with Tribal Ordinance No. 91-04; and
  - d. copies of amended policies and procedures shall be sent to the secretary, tribal officials, and Tribal Education Department.
- 10. Any tribe, its designee, or parent, that has children attending the Todd County School District may file a written complaint with the superintendent for action by the Board of Education relating to violations of the impact aid law.

Parents of children attending Todd County School District may submit their grievances regarding impact aid funding and programs in writing to the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Education Department.

Any tribe, or its designee, that has children attending Todd County School District may file a written complaint with the assistant secretary regarding any action of the Todd County School District which is in violation of the regulations set forth in 35 CFR, Subpart G.

Action of written complaints and hearings shall be adhered to as set forth in 35 CFR, Subpart G.

\*NOTE: The Todd County School District has a monthly publication, THE DREAMCATCHER. This publication is mailed to each household in the school district and the Rosebud Indian Reservation. It is our intention to publish summaries of the impact aid application, program plans, and evaluations, when they are available, in the THE DREAMCATCHER, noting that a detailed copy of the documents will be sent to any parent upon his/her request. The district shall mail copies of the required information to individual tribal council members.

REF: SECTION 8538 OF THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

REVISED: January 22, 1990

REVISED: June 22, 1992

REVISED: October 25, 1993

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