

Watersmeet Township School District
Indian Policies and Procedures
32-MI-2020-1403

2022-2023 School Year

It is the intent of the Watersmeet Township 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 Watersmeet Township School District will consult with local tribal officials and parents of Indian children in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP's), 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 Watersmeet Township School District attests that it has established Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP's) as required in section 7003 of the Impact Aid law for any children claimed who reside on eligible Indian lands. The IPPs have 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 2021 Impact Aid application.

The Watersmeet Township 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 2021 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: The District Administrator/designee will, as soon as reasonably possible after such information becomes available, but not later than two weeks in advance of any meeting, email to Indian parents and Tribal officials a copy of the following documents:

- Impact Aid FY 2022 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 monthly newsletter, if appropriate.

Parents of Indian children, tribal officials and public will be given notice by email of any and all meetings related to equal participation or the content of the educational programs 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.

The Watersmeet Township School District will disseminate information and, for a period of one month, 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 30 days in advance of public hearings August and January 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 publically advertised by school district monthly newsletters sent to all parents of students, tribal officers and council, public community postings of the hearings, school district website calendar, and school district marquee to allow all interested parties to attend. In addition, representatives from the District and Indian Education Committee will schedule meetings with the Superintendent 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 Watersmeet Township School District will provide an opportunity for the Lac Vieux Desert 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 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 of soliciting Indian views, if necessary, to ensure the maximum participation of tribes and parents of Indian children.

Procedure 2: The Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee) of the Watersmeet Township School District will meet monthly 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.

At each of the Watersmeet Township School District's 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, September and January, 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 Lac Vieux Desert Tribe to discuss ongoing programming goals.

POLICY (3): The Watersmeet Township 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 participation information related to Indian children's participation in the LEA's education programs and activities with tribes and parents of Indian children; and
- (ii) Allow tribes and parents of Indian children the opportunity and time (one month) to review and comment on whether Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children.

Procedure 3: The Watersmeet Township 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 Watersmeet Township 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 January, 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 (Parent Advisory Committee) via mail, email, and postings at tribal offices, etc.

If it is determined that there are gaps in Indian participation in the educational program of activities, the Watersmeet Township 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 Watersmeet Township School District will modify the IPPs if necessary, based upon the results of any assessment or input described in this document. [34CFR222.94(a)(4)]

Procedure 4: 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 has happened, the document will be forwarded to the Watersmeet Township 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 10 days of adoption by the Watersmeet Township School Board.

POLICY (5): The Watersmeet Township 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 [34CFR222.94 (a)(5)]

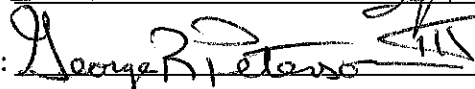
Procedure 5: The Watersmeet Township School District will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by the Lac Vieux Desert Indian Education Committee (Parent Advisory Committee), tribal officials, or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to all parties by mail, email, posting at tribal offices, etc., prior to the submission of the IPPs by the District.

POLICY (6): The Watersmeet Township School District will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to the affected tribe or tribes. [34CFR222.94.(a)(6)]

Procedure 6: The Watersmeet Township School District will annually provide a copy of the current Indian Policies and Procedures to the Lac Vieux Desert tribe annually by mail, email, posting at tribal offices, etc.

December 21, 2021 – Watersmeet Township School District

Signed:  School Board President

Signed:  Superintendent