

## MEMORANDUM SRS- 468

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Office of the Superintendent

DATE: September 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of Indian Policies & Procedures and  
appointment of Impact Aide Representative

In conjunction with our application for impact aide funds, there are two items which need to be approved on an annual basis. The first is the appointment of a representative and the second is the procedure to insure community involvement called the "Indian Policies & Procedures." While these procedures are mainly designed for use in districts that do not have a majority of Native American membership, we must also abide by the regulation. These have been approved by the U.S. Department of Education in their existing form and now need your review and approval.

**Recommended Action:** Motion to appoint Jack Foster, Superintendent, as the authorized representative for impact aide and to approve the Indian Policies & Procedures.

# **Southwest Region School District**

## **P.O. Box 90 • Dillingham, Alaska 99576**

**SRS-358 Indian P&P and Impact Aide Representative:** Statement of Procedures for Compliance with Public Law 81-874, as amended by Public Law 95-561.

The Southwest Region School District (REAA Number 6) serves approximately 630 students at eight schools where more than 99 percent are Alaska Natives.

Because the District is located in a rural area that does not have a tax base, the state funds approximately two-thirds of the District operations, with the balance funded by PL-874. As such, the state of Alaska is entitled to and does deduct 90 percent of the PL-874 funds from its support, except for that portion of PL-874 funds generated as a result of families living on Indian lands.

The Southwest Region School Board recognizes the importance of parental involvement in identifying needs of their children and making recommendations regarding educational programs. Therefore, procedures to insure such involvement have been developed as follows:

- 1) Prior to December 15 of each year the administrator of each site, in cooperation with the Chairperson of the Community School Committee (CSC) will schedule a public meeting on education. Office of the village native corporation and traditional village councils as well as parents of Indian children will be invited to participate in the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, the district will mail to the village corporation and traditional village council officers the following items. Students will hand carry home to parents these same items. Parents and officers will be notified that copies of the original (non-summaried) documents are available to them upon request.

- i) Summarized information on the PL-874 application.
- ii) Summarized reports, if any, of all educational program evaluations assisted with PL-874 funds, produced by the district or outside agencies.
- iii) A summarized report of District plans, if any, to initiate or eliminate educational programs.

The meeting agenda will include the following topics:

- i) PL-874 application.
- ii) Evaluation of the district evaluation program and the impact of 874 funds.
- iii) Local educational needs.
- iv) The district's plans to initiate or eliminate educational plans.

1.1 At least seven (7) days advance public notice shall be given prior to the meeting date.

1.2 A list containing the names and addresses of all those in attendance will be obtained with a copy of such visits to be forward to the District Office on the day following the meeting.

1.3 Minutes of the meeting shall be kept in which identified needs and recommendations are recorded. A copy of the minutes shall be forwarded to the District Office on the day following the meeting.

- 2) Prior to April 15 of each year, the administrator at each site, in cooperation with the CSC Chairperson, shall schedule a public meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed educational program and preliminary budget. Offices of the village native corporation and traditional councils as well as parents of Indian children will be invited to participate in the meeting.

During the meeting, while reviewing the proposed education program and preliminary budget, the site administrator shall present a verbal assessment of how the input from the fall meeting has been reflected in the proposed actions. The School Board will not adopt a final budget until local input and requested changes modifying the district's policies and procedures, if any, have been received and reviewed from this second PL-874 meeting.

2.1 At least seven (7) days advance public notice shall be given prior to the meeting date.

2.2 A list containing the names and addresses of all those in attendance will be obtained with a copy of such visits to be forward to the District Office on the day following the meeting.

2.3 Minutes of the meeting shall be kept in which identified needs and recommendations are recorded. A copy of the minutes shall be forwarded to the District Office on the day following the meeting.

- 3) The administrator at each site, at the conclusion of the meetings specified in items 1 and 2 above, will advise participants of their right to present comments, recommendations, or criticisms to the Southwest Region School Board either in writing or in person, and will state the procedures for doing so.
- 4) Following the public meetings conducted twice yearly at each site, the School Board will place on its agenda PL-874 for the purpose of reviewing procedures for tribal and parental input in the program, review of school data and comments from tribal officials and parents assessing the extent of their children's equal participation in educational programs funded by PL-874, and if necessary, to establish a task force to prepare a modified educational program to ensure equal participation in the program by Indian children.

The procedures specified above will remain in effect until modified, superseded or discontinued by action of the Southwest Region School Board.

For further information, write or call:

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Southwest Region School  
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Dillingham, AK 99576  
907-842-5287