

**Billings School District 2**

**INSTRUCTION**

Recognition of Native American Cultural Heritage

The District recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of Native Americans and is committed in its educational goals to the preservation of such heritage. To that end, the District will strive to assist each student in understanding the inherent value of cultural identity and the unique heritage contributed by the indigenous peoples of our nation.

In furtherance of its educational goals, the District is committed

- to working cooperatively with Montana Tribes that are in close proximity to the District, when providing instruction, when implementing educational goals or adopting rules relating to the education of students in the District;
- to reviewing periodically its curriculum to ensure the inclusion of cultural heritage of Native Americans, which will include, but not necessarily be limited to
  - providing books and materials that reflect authentic historical and contemporary portrayals of Native Americans; and
  - taking into account individual and cultural diversity and differences among students; and
- to providing necessary training for school personnel, with the objective of their gaining an understanding and awareness of Native American culture, to assist in District relations with Native American students and parents.

The Board may require certified staff to satisfy the requirements for instruction in American Indian Students set forth in § 20-1-503, MCA.

<u>Legal References:</u>	Art. X, Sec. 1(2), Montana Constitution
	§§ 20-1-501, et seq., MCA
	Recognition of American Indian cultural heritage - legislative intent
	10.55.603 ARM
	Curriculum Development and Assessment
	10.55.701 ARM
	Board of Trustees
	10.55.803 ARM
	Learner Access

Policy History:

First Reading: January 19, 2004 – Board of Trustees

Second Reading: March 8, 2004 – Education Committee  
Third Reading: April 19, 2004 – Board of Trustees  
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