

Native American Policies and Procedures

Ferndale School District

2025

It is the intent of the Ferndale School District that all Native American children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the school district. To this end, the Ferndale School District will consult with the Lummi Nation and parents of Native American children in the planning and development of Native American Policies and Procedures (NAPPs), 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 Ferndale School District attests that it has established Native American Policies and Procedures (NAPPs) as required in section 7004 of the Impact Aid law for any children claimed who reside on eligible Native American lands. The NAPPs have been adequately disseminated to the Lummi Nation and parents of children residing on eligible Native American lands. A copy of the current policies and procedures was attached to the FY 2022 Impact Aid application.

The Ferndale School District attests that it has provided a copy of written responses to comments, concerns and recommendations received from tribal leaders and parents of Native American children through the Native American policies and procedures consultation process and disseminated these responses to tribal leaders and parents of Native American children prior to the submission of their FY 2023 Impact Aid application.

Native American Policies and Procedures

The following Native American 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 the Lummi Nation and parents of Native American children the opportunity to review and make recommendations. [34CFR222.94(a)(1)]

Procedure 1:

The LEA will disseminate, as soon as reasonably possible after such information becomes available, but in advance of any meeting, by email, school district newsletter, notification sent home with students to Native American parents and the Lummi Nation a copy of the following documents:

- Impact Aid Application;
- Assessment/Evaluation of Equal Participation in all Educational Programs;

- Native American Policies Procedures (NAPPs);
- Any Plans for changes in district education programs.

Parents/Guardians of Native children, Tribal officials and the public will be given notice of meetings related to equal participation or the content of the educational program by including information about meeting times and locations in the newspaper, District website, mail and/or social media.

Ferndale School District Parents/Guardians of Native children, Tribal officials, the JOM staff/representatives, Lummi Liaisons, 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.

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

(i) Notify the Lummi Nation and the parents/guardians of Native American children of the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations, considering the Lummi Nation's preference for method of communication, and

(ii) Modify the method of and time for soliciting Native American views, if necessary, to ensure the maximum participation of the Lummi Nation and parents of Native American children.

Procedure 2:

2.1 The LEA will make the following opportunities available for parents/guardians of Native American Children and the Lummi Nation to provide input on the educational program and activities:

- November/December meeting
- Monthly Parent Advisory Committee meetings and/or communication
- Annual Title Funding Allocation meeting (typically in June)

2.2 Native American parents and the Lummi Nation will be given notice of any and all meetings by email, school district newsletter, website, notification sent home with students and/or Parent Square in advance of any meeting on this subject.

2.3 The LEA currently disseminates information via phone, email, website, and/or Parent Square. The LEA will, to the extent possible entertain other proposed methods of communication from the Lummi Nation.

2.4 If the consultation participation by parents/guardians of Native American children and the Lummi Nation is low, the Ferndale School District will re-evaluate its consultation process. Specifically, the Ferndale School District will take the following measures to improve or enhance participation:

- Consult with parents/guardians of Native American children and the Lummi Nation
- Change communication method
- Change time and/or location of meeting

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

(i) Share relevant information related to Native American children's participation in the LEA's education program and activities with the Lummi Nation and parents/guardians of Native American children; and

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

Procedure 3:

The Ferndale School District will take the following measures to annually assess the extent to which Native American children participate on an equal basis with non-Native American children in the District's education program and activities.

3.1 The Ferndale School District shall annually calculate from its records the ratio of Native American children compared to non-Native American children participating in all academic and co-curricular programs.

3.2 The Ferndale School District will disseminate its assessment of Native American children participation compared to non-Native American children and any other related data with the parents/guardians of Native American children and the Lummi Nation by email, school district website, notification sent home with students and/or Parent Square. This information will be shared in advance of any meeting to discuss the extent to which Native American children participate with non-Native American children.

3.3 Parents/Guardians of Native American children, the Lummi Nation and other interested parties may express their views on participation at the November/December meeting or at any monthly parent advisory committee meeting, including JOM.

3.4. If it is determined that there are gaps in Native American participation in the educational program or activities, the Ferndale School Board in consultation with the Parent Advisory Committee, the Lummi Nation, the parents of Native American children, along with the Native American Liaisons will modify its education program in such a way as to improve Native American participation.

POLICY (4): The Ferndale School District will modify the NAPPs if necessary, based upon the results of any assessment or input described in this document. [34CRF222.94(a)(4)]

Procedure 4:

4.1 The Ferndale School Board will schedule a meeting in November/December to discuss the content of the NAPPs, equal participation, and educational program and activities. Parents/Guardians of Native American children and the Lummi Nation will be notified via email, website, notification sent home with students and/or Parent Square regarding these meetings and their ability to submit comment.

4.2 The Ferndale School Board will evaluate and decide which changes to adopt in these NAPPs.

4.3 Any changes to the NAPPs become effective upon approval by the Ferndale School Board.

4.4 The Ferndale School District will disseminate copies of the revised NAPPs to the Lummi Nation and parents/guardians of Native American children by email, website, notification sent home with students and/or Parent Square within 30 days of adoption by the Ferndale School Board.

POLICY (5) : The Ferndale School District will respond at least annually in writing to comments and recommendations made by the Lummi Nation or parents of Native American children, and disseminate the responses to the Lummi Nation and parents of Native American children prior to the submission of the NAPPs by the LEA. [34CRF222 .94(a)(5)]

Procedure 5


5.1 The Ferndale School District will annually keep track of and assemble all comments and suggestions received through the various the consultation processes by taking meeting minutes at all of the meetings where the NAPPs, educational program, equal participation or the Impact Aid application are discussed.

5.2 The Ferndale School District will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by the Lummi Nation, or parents/guardians of Native American children, and disseminate the responses to all parties by email, website, notification sent home with students and/or Parent Square to the submission of the NAPPs by the District.

POLICY (6): The Ferndale School District will provide a copy of the NAPPs annually to the Lummi Nation. [34CR F222.94 (a)(6)]

Procedure 6: The Ferndale School District will annually provide a copy of the current Native American Policies and Procedures to Lummi Nation by email, website, notification sent home with students and/or Parent Square prior to submitting the Impact Aid Application.

Board Approval Date


School Board President

1/28/2025
Date

