

PILLAR CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.
Indian Policies and Procedures
Revised: December 8, 2017
SY 2017/18

It is the intent of Pillar Charter School, Inc. (LEA), an Arizona Non-Profit Public Charter School, that all Indian children of school age have equal access to all programs, services and activities offered within the LEA.

To this end, Pillar Charter School will consult with local tribal officials and parents of Indian children in the planning and development of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs), 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

Pillar Charter School attests that it has established Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs) as required in section 7004 of the Impact Aid law for any children claimed who reside on eligible Indian lands. The IPPs have been 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 2019 Impact Aid application.

Pillar Charter School 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 2019 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 Pillar Charter School Executive Director/designee will, as soon as reasonably possible after such information becomes available, but not later than one week in advance of any meeting, mail to Indian parents and Tribal officials a copy of the following documents:

- Impact Aid FY 2019 application;
- Evaluation of all educational programs; and
- Plans for education programs Pillar Charter School intends to initiate or eliminate.

In addition, information regarding these materials will be included on the Pillar Charter School's website, if appropriate.

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

Pillar Charter School will disseminate information and 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 Fort Mojave Education Department and summary will be prepared and disseminated 10 business days in advance of public hearings in held in September and May (2 meetings) 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 posting the meeting notices on the school's official website and by written notification to the Fort Mojave Indian Tribal Office and Education Department to allow all interested parties to attend. In addition, representatives from Pillar Charter School and the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) will schedule meetings with the Fort Mojave Tribal Council (or with their designees) to seek input.

Parents of Indian children, tribal officials, the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) 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 Committee (School Site Council) meetings will be posted on Pillar Charter School's official website for all patrons and Tribal officials to review. This will allow for ongoing dissemination of information.

POLICY (2): Pillar Charter School will provide an opportunity for the Tribe and parents of Indian children to provide their views on Pillar Charter School's educational program and activities, including recommendations on the needs of their children and on how Pillar Charter School may help those children realize the benefits of the educational programs and activities. [34CFR222 .94(a)(2)]

- (i) Notify the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe and the 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 for soliciting Indian views, if necessary, to ensure the maximum participation of tribes and parents of Indian children.

Procedure 2: In order to allow Fort Mojave Indian Tribe parents and tribal officials to make commentary concerning (1) the needs of their children and the ways in which they can assist them in realizing the benefits of the education programs; (2) the overall operation of Pillar Charter School's education program; and (3) the degree of parental participation allowed in the same, the Pillar Charter School Governing Board (Board) will mail parents of currently enrolled Indian children and Tribal officials a questionnaire requesting their input and recommendations in the fall and will thereafter hold an annual Governing Board meeting where such commentary may be reviewed by Indian parents, Tribal officials, and the Board.

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe parents and Tribal officials will be given notice of any and all meetings by including in the above-referred questionnaire to be disseminated in the fall semester information as to the location of legally posted Board notices. The location, date and time of any meeting described above shall be posted in the same manner as a legally posted Board meeting.

If participation in the survey results in a low return rate or the established meeting yield low participation by the parents of Indian children and tribal officials, Pillar Charter School will re-evaluate its plan and consult with parents of Indian children and tribal officials on ways to improve and enhance participation in the consultation process. Pillar Charter School may re-locate meetings or times to encourage participation.

The Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) of Pillar Charter School will meet (at minimum) quarterly 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 governing board representative is a non-voting member of the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council). This representation allows for the discussion of the needs of the students and ideas to be brought forward to both the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) as well as the Governing Board.

At each of the quarterly governing 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 in September and May 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 Pillar Charter School.

Pillar Charter School and Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) representatives will schedule meetings with the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe to discuss ongoing programming goals.

POLICY (3): Pillar Charter School will annually assess the extent to which Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children in Pillar Charter School's education program and activities. [34CFR222.94(a)(3)]

- (i) Share relevant information related to Indian children's participation in the LEA's education program and activities with tribes and parents of Indian children; and
- (ii) Allow tribes and parents of Indian children the opportunity and time to review and comment on whether Indian children participate on an equal basis with non-Indian children.

Procedure 3: Pillar Charter School will take the following measures to 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.

- a) Pillar Charter School will monitor Indian student participation in all academic and co-curricular activities.
- b) Pillar Charter School officials will review school data to assess the extent of Indian children's participation in Pillar Charter School's educational programs on an equal basis

- c) Pillar Charter School will share its assessment of LEA funding, Indian student participation, related academic achievements and other related data will be shared with the parents of Indian children and tribal officials by (mail, posting at tribal offices, and Pillar Charter School's official website).
- d) Parents of Indian children, tribal officials and other interested parties may express their views on participation through direct communication with the school, at any governing board meeting or to the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council).
- e) Copies of annual reports will be provided to tribal officials.

Pillar Charter School shall annually calculate from its records the ratio of Indian children compared to other children participating academic and co-curricular programs ("school data").

Annually (at a minimum), the Executive Director (or a designee), administrators, staff members, the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council), Indian parents, and Tribal officials will hold a meeting to assess the extent of Indian children 's participation in the educational program. At such meeting, attendees will analyze the school data and Tribal/parental commentary to determine the extent of equality of Indian children's participation with other children.

Pillar Charter School will disseminate the results of the assessment of Indian participation to parents of Indian children and tribal officials within 10 business days of publication mail, email, posting at tribal offices and Pillar Charter School's official website).

Parents of Indian children or tribal officials may comment on the results at regularly scheduled governing board meetings, Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) meetings, directly to Pillar Charter School by (phone, email, writing, etc.). In addition, parents of Indian children and tribal officials may comment in the fall and spring semester through a questionnaire requesting information concerning their views as to the extent of Indian children's participation in educational programs on an equal basis with other children.

The Pillar Charter School Governing Board will establish an ad hoc committee of Indian parents, Tribal officials, and staff members to assist in the modification of educational programs in order to ensure the equal participation of Indian children. Such committee shall make recommendations to the Board as to any needed modifications. The Pillar Charter School Board shall give deference to the suggestions of the committee in voting on proposed modifications.

Pillar Charter School shall annually analyze participation rates of Indian children compared to other children in all aspects of the educational program and school sponsored activities.

Pillar Charter School's Executive Director and school staff, in conjunction with the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council), 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 Pillar Charter School community. 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 May, Pillar Charter School 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 (School Site Council) via mail, email, posting at tribal offices, and posted on Pillar Charter School's official website.

If it is determined that there are gaps in Indian participation in the educational program or activities, Pillar Charter School, in consultation with the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council), and tribal officials, will modify its education program in such a way as to improve Indian participation.

POLICY (4): Pillar Charter School will modify the IPPs if necessary. based upon the results of any assessment or input described in this document. [34CRF222.94(a)(4)]

Procedure 4: During the organization meeting of the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council), the Indian Policies and Procedures will be reviewed and revised if necessary.

Once this had happened, the document will be forwarded to the Governing Board as well as the tribal officials and parents of Indian children for review and consideration. If necessary, the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council) 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 business days of adoption by the Governing Board.

The Pillar Charter School Governing Board will establish an ad hoc committee of Indian parents and Tribal officials to annually review the components the Indian Policies and Procedures to ensure that they meet federal regulatory and statutory requirements.

The ad hoc committee shall serve as a task force to review the meaningfulness of Indian input, to review the extent of opportunity for Indian input and to Pillar Charter School's response to Indian commentary. The ad hoc committee will review the effectiveness of Pillar Charter School's methods of gathering the input of Indian parents and Tribal members; calculate the number of Indian suggestions which were actually implemented; permit Indian parents and Tribal officials to suggest more effective ways of communicating their views. If necessary, the ad hoc committee shall make recommendations to the Board to modify its policies and procedures.

Pillar Charter School will hold a Board meeting to modify policies and procedures if the ad hoc committee indicates such modification is necessary.

Pillar Charter School will notify parents of Indian children, tribal officials and the general public of any changes to the Indian Policies and Procedures by mail, email, posting at tribal offices, and posting to Pillar Charter School's official website.

POLICY (5) : Pillar Charter School 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. [34CRF222 .94(a)(5)]

Procedure 5: Pillar Charter School will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by the Indian Education Committee (School Site Council), tribal officials, or parents of Indian children, and disseminate the responses to all parties by mail, email, posting at tribal offices, and posted to Pillar Charter School's official website prior to the submission of the IPPs by Pillar Charter School.

POLICY (6): Pillar Charter School will provide a copy of the IPPs annually to the affected tribe or tribes. [34CR F222.94 (a)(6)]

Pillar Charter School will annually provide a copy of the current Indian Policies and Procedures to the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe by mail, email, posting at tribal offices, and posted on Pillar Charter School's official website.

Board Approval Date: December 8, 2017