

Title 16 – Tribal Education Code

**Chapter 5. Parental and Community Involvement**

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**Sec. 501. Parental and Community Involvement.**

(a) Tribal Education Department to include parents and community members in implementation and refinement of Tribal Education Code. The Tribal Education Department shall include parents and community members in the implementation and refinement of this Tribal Education Code. Such inclusion and involvement shall include, but not be limited to, inclusion in: the development of Tribal curriculum, education standards, and educational policies and programs; and the preparation of the annual State of the Reservation Education Report. Such inclusion and involvement shall be accomplished through open public meetings, and through other appropriate means. The Tribal Education Department shall also strive to include and involve parents and community members in addressing specific education problems and issues and in improving education on the Reservation.

(b) Tribal Education Department to provide annual in-service training for parents and community members. The Tribal Education Department shall provide annually for parents and community

members in-service training in the priority education areas and issues of the Tribes, and in asserting and advocating for the education of their children.

(c) Local schools, schools boards, other educational institutions, and the governing bodies of other educational institutions to involve parents and community members. Local schools, school boards, other educational institutions, and the governing bodies of other educational institutions shall involve parents and members of the community in the schools in ways that include the following:

(1) Formal processes regarding curriculum, education standards, policies regarding school governance, programs, and extra-curricular activities. They shall include at least one (1) parent or community member in the formal process of planning, developing, and evaluating curriculum, education standards, policies regarding school governance, educational policies and programs, and extra-curricular activities;

(2) Distribution of proposed curriculum and policies regarding school governance and curriculum and policy changes. They shall distribute draft copies of proposed curriculum, policies regarding school governance, and changes in curriculum and policies to parents and community members for review and input before the curriculum, policies, or changes are adopted or effective;

(3) Develop materials regarding curriculum, policies, and activities. They shall develop written materials designed to familiarize parents with the school's curriculum and policies and detailing specific activities that parents and students may undertake together to enrich the students' formal educational experience and development; and

(4) Procedures for parent-school communication. In cooperation with the Tribal Education Department, they shall review their procedures for communication between the parents and the schools, and shall review the effectiveness of those procedures. With the Tribal Education Department and parents, they shall strive to develop ways to improve such procedures.

(d) Local schools and other educational institutions to report compliance and progress of parental and community involvement. Local schools and other educational institutions shall annually report to the Tribal Education Department their compliance with and progress under the provisions of this code regarding parental and community involvement.

(e) Tribal Education Department to evaluate compliance by local schools and other educational institutions with provisions for parental and community involvement. The Tribal Education Department shall regularly evaluate the compliance by and progress of local schools and other educational institutions with the provisions of this code regarding parental and community.

(f) Relationship of parental and community involvement to parenting and family life curriculum. The provisions of this Code regarding parental and community involvement apply to all parents and community members, including those students who are parents. The need for parental and community involvement in local schools and other educational institutions shall be included in the Tribal curriculum containing instruction on parenting and family life.