

## INDIAN EDUCATION

- I. The Rapid City Board of Education's mission is to provide all American Indian students an opportunity to learn and grow to their greatest potential. Collaboration and harmony will be pursued to assure that American Indian students will become responsible citizens both in the culture of the American Indian people and as citizens of the United States.
- II. The district desires to increase academic achievement, positive psychosocial development, understanding and appreciation of cultural differences among Indian youth and cross cultural communications and relationships. Opportunities will include efforts to: enrich language and developmental skills; promote a school culture that includes appropriate academic, social, cultural and physical development among American Indian students; establish a curriculum that integrates the historical perspectives of American Indian people; high expectations and challenging academics; support of native language ability; recruitment of American Indian educators and community role models; intolerance for overt and subtle racism; a multicultural focus in the schools that will promote understanding among students of all races; and development of programs and support from community organizations which can effectively reach out and service the parents of American Indian school children. The district will consult with the Title IX Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee and school staff to design, operate and evaluate qualitative supplemental programs, which integrate and build upon the lifestyle, values and traditions existing within the community.
- III. Programs developed which modify the learning environment and instructional or guidance approaches will be vitally linked and integrated with the core programs and staff of the district.
- IV. American Indian history and cultures, combined with innovative and effective American Indian Education teaching strategies, will be integrated into the curriculum.
- V. Current and relevant guidance approaches and methods will be utilized to assist American Indian students in personal and social development.
- VI. Affirmative Action principles and personnel development training will be implemented, enforced and monitored to increase American Indian staffing to serve as role models for all students. Additionally, cross cultural communications and effective interpersonal relations will be emphasized to improve working relationships among staff.

- VII. To measure progress toward qualitative or supplemental program goals for American Indian students, information will be collected annually and compared to existing baseline data for a report to the public and staff and will be used in continuing or changing program direction and emphasis.
- VIII. The district is committed to utilizing local funds and linking agency resources and programs in the community and other available funding sources to support essential programs necessary for American Indian students.

Adopted 12/19/78  
Revised 03/09/82  
Reviewed 05/24/88  
Revised 03/08/94  
Revised 06/13/00

Legal References: Rapid City Area Schools Philosophy of Education  
PL 92-318 Title IV 86 Stat 334  
Rapid City Area Schools Needs Assessment and  
Recommendations Report on Indian Education - July, 1981  
Education Consolidation and Improvement Act of 1981, Chapter II  
Indian Education of 1988 (P.L. 100-297)  
Title V Parent Advisory Committee - Recommendations for Indian  
Education Initiatives