

## Bigfork School District

### INSTRUCTION

2450

#### Recognition of Native American Cultural Heritage

The District recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of Native Americans and is committed in the District's educational goals to the preservation of such heritage.

In furtherance of the District's educational goals, the District is committed to the following

- Working cooperatively with Montana Tribes in close proximity to the District, when providing instruction, when implementing educational goals or adopting rules relating to education of students in the District;
- Developing curriculum in all grades and program areas that includes the following objectives
  - Take into account individual and cultural diversity and differences among learners. Cultural and language differences should be viewed as valuable and enriching resources taking into account the unique needs of American Indian students and other minority groups.
  - Develop an understanding of the values and contributions of Montana's American Indians for all students
  - Provide learning resources that are culturally relevant, inclusive, and current.
  - Provide books and instructional materials which reflect authentic and historical and contemporary portrayals of American Indians.
- Providing necessary training for school personnel, with the objective of gaining an understanding and awareness of Native American culture, which will assist the District's staff in its relations with Native American students and parents.

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

Legal Reference: 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:

Adopted on: May 3, 2006

Revised on: