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**District Reply to Written Comments and Recommendations made by the IEC, tribal officials, or  
parents of Indian children living on the Santa Rosa Rancheria  
October 5, 2020**

Central Union School District's vision is to "Empower every student to reach their highest potential" every day. In providing an exceptional educational environment, the District adopts policies and procedures which guide these practices. The policies and procedures are consistent with model policy adopted from the California School Boards Association, and tailored to the unique needs of the District.

As required in Section 7004 of the Impact Aid law the Central Union Elementary School District has established Indian Policies and Procedures (IPP) for any children who reside on eligible Indian lands. The IPP plays an important role to provide avenues of communication and input between the District, Tribe, and parents of children living on the Santa Rosa Rancheria.

During the Fall (September) meeting of the Indian Education Council (IEC), the Indian Policies and Procedures were reviewed. The District disseminated the IPP to the tribe and parents of the children living on the Santa Rosa Rancheria on September 15, 2020. The District asked that Indian parents and Tribal members review the IPP's and provide the District with any relevant input related to the policy.

As stated in Board Policy 5135 the Central Union Elementary School District will at least annually respond in writing to comments and recommendations made by the IEC, tribal officials, or parents of Indian children. When community responses are received, the District will disseminate the reply to the SRR Education Department. As the acting Liaison between the Central Union School District, and the Tachi-Yokut Tribe, the SRR Education Department will submit the District responses to the tribal officials. Additionally, the District will post the District responses on the school website and will send notification of this posting to all parents via the Districts automated telephone notification system.

Below are the ideas thoughts, questions and or concerns received during the Annual Window of receiving information from the Tribe, and parents of children living on the Santa Rosa Rancheria.

**IDEAS, THOUGHTS, QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS  
Fall 2020**

**Information Received from Parents and from Indian Ed Council**

"I don't know if this has anything to do with the IPP stuff but last year for summer school I think it was Mrs. Barstow did a class for teacher native language, I would like that to be an actual class or program that is offer in Central, specially (sic) with all the native kids going to the school."

## Response to Information Received

Thank you for the question and suggestion. You are correct that this question does not result in the need to change the procedures or policies as outlined in Board Policy (BP) 5135 - Indian Policy and Procedures.

District policy (BP 5135) allows the Tachi-Yokut Tribe and parents of Indian children to provide their views on the District's educational program and activities. These opportunities are extended through scheduled IEC meetings and any regularly scheduled school board meetings during the public comment section. Additional opportunities are given through various documents: course descriptions, student-parent handbooks, websites, and communications sent out annually through the school site.

The administration of the Central Union District appreciates and values the question and recommendation. During the summer, 2019, a Native American class for all Native American students through Title VI funding was implemented. This three-week summer school class was a course studying various aspects of Native culture, one being Native 'vocabulary'. Title VI funds and the expenditures allocated for program considerations are determined by the IEC in collaboration with the Central Union School District. If Title VI funds are available for future summer schools, a Native American class can again be offered to Native American students. These summer classes have less rigorous requirements for credentialing requirements and are more relaxed on course content.

For program offerings during the regular school year, several factors must be considered. The most important is the educational content, which determines the teacher's credential requirements for instructing the class. In developing the course, the site principal, in consultation with the curriculum department, ensures the educational content is aligned correctly to that grade level's academic standards. Following this step, the District must determine the staffing availability and credential requirements necessary to teach this class, given the course content. Provided these requirements can be met to satisfy state credentialing requirements and compliance, the course can be put into place.

Realizing the importance and partnership of the Tachi-Yokut Tribe, the District will continue to work with the school site, and the Indian Education Council on elective program offerings that can be provided to our students and support continued education about the Native American Culture.

Central Union School District encourages and invites parents and community members to be involved in their children's education and thanks to parents, tribal officials, and the Indian Educational Council for taking the time to review the annual Indian Education Policy for the 2020-21 school year.