

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

### *Series 600*

Policy Title: CULTURAL STANDARDS

Code: 600.4

It shall be the policy of the Lapwai School District Board of Trustees to implement Cultural Standards for students, educators, curriculum, schools and community. There are five essential elements that will ensure that the Lapwai School District is culturally sensitive and responsive. The system should (1) value diversity, (2) have the capacity for cultural self-assessment and cultural assessment district-wide, (3) be conscious of the “dynamics” inherent when cultures interact, (4) institutionalize culture knowledge, and (5) develop adaptations to service delivery reflecting an understanding of diversity between and within cultures.

#### **CULTURAL STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS**

- A. Culturally knowledgeable students are well grounded in the cultural heritage and traditions of their community.
- B. Culturally knowledgeable students are able to build on the knowledge and skills of the local and world cultural communities as a foundation from which to achieve personal and academic success throughout life.
- C. Culturally knowledgeable students are able to actively participate in various cultural environments.
- D. Culturally knowledgeable students are able to engage effectively in learning activities that are based on traditional ways of knowing and learning.
- E. Culturally knowledgeable students demonstrate an awareness and appreciation of the relationships and processes of interaction of all elements in the world around them.

#### **CULTURAL STANDARDS FOR EDUCATORS**

- A. Culturally responsive educators incorporate local ways of knowing and teaching in their work.
- B. Culturally responsive educators use the local environment and community resources on a regular basis to link what they are teaching to the everyday lives of the students.
- C. Culturally responsive educators participate in community events and activities in an appropriate and supportive way.
- D. Culturally responsive educators work closely with parents to achieve a high level of complementary educational expectations between home and school.
- E. Culturally responsive educators recognize the full educational potential of each student and provide the challenges necessary for them to achieve that potential.

#### **CULTURAL STANDARDS FOR CURRICULUM**

- A. A culturally responsive curriculum reinforces the integrity of the cultural knowledge that students bring with them.
- B. A culturally responsive curriculum recognizes cultural knowledge as part of a living and constantly adapting system that is grounded in the past, but continues to grow through the present and into the future.
- C. A culturally responsive curriculum uses the local language and cultural knowledge as part of the foundation for the rest of the curriculum.

- D. A culturally responsive curriculum fosters a complementary relationship derived from diverse knowledge systems.
- E. A culturally responsive curriculum situates local knowledge and actions in a global context.

### **CULTURAL STANDARDS FOR SCHOOLS**

- A. A culturally responsive school fosters the on-going participation of Elders in the schooling process.
- B. A culturally responsive school provides multiple avenues for students to access the learning that is offered, as well as multiple forms of assessment for students to demonstrate what they have learned.
- C. A culturally responsive school provides opportunities for students to learn in and/or about their heritage language.
- D. A culturally responsive school has a high level of involvement of professional staff that is of the same cultural background as the students with whom they are working.
- E. A culturally responsive school consists of facilities that are compatible with the community environment in which they are situated.
- F. A culturally responsive school fosters extensive on-going participation, communication and interaction between school staff and community.

### **CULTURAL STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITIES**

- A. A culturally supportive community incorporates the practice of local cultural traditions.
- B. A culturally supportive community nurtures the use of the local heritage language.
- C. A culturally supportive community takes an active role in the education of its members.
- D. A culturally supportive community nurtures family responsibility, sense of belonging and cultural identity.
- E. A culturally supportive community assists teachers in learning and utilizing local cultural traditions and practices.
- F. A culturally supportive community contributes to pertinent aspects of curriculum design and implementation in the local school.

Date of Adoption:  
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Legal References:

Related References: