

1 **Ronan Public Schools**

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3 **THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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5 Mission of the Board

6 The Mission of the Ronan Public Schools, an educational system which values our multicultural  
7 heritage, is to provide an equitable learning opportunity in a safe environment for all students.  
8 The District families, community, and staff join as partners to educate and empower students for  
9 present and future individual achievement and contribution to their community and compete in a  
10 constantly changing global society.

11 Vision

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13 The District and the community join in partnership to provide a safe, attractive, and orderly  
14 learning environment. This positive climate promotes healthy lifestyles, where students realize  
15 the importance of lifelong learning, take responsibility for high personal standards, and feel a  
16 greater sense of self-worth and belonging. Each individual will learn to celebrate and be  
17 respectful of the rich, multicultural community and to appreciate the unique heritage and history  
18 of the Flathead Reservation. This partnership strives for a standard of excellence where all  
19 students achieve their highest personal expectations and are prepared to be successful in today's  
20 competitive, global society. In this learning environment students will graduate prepared to  
21 pursue their life choices and to attain their personal visions of success.

22  
23 Policy and Vision for Indian Education

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25 **Policy**

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27 It is the Board's policy that all children will have full and equal opportunity to participate in all  
28 programs and activities operated under District jurisdiction. The Board hereby reaffirms the  
29 commitment to the Indian population of the school system, as stated in the Montana Constitution  
30 (Article X, Section 1, Subsection 2): "The state recognizes the distinct and unique cultural  
31 heritage of the American Indians and is committed in its educational goals to the preservation of  
32 their cultural integrity." The Board further recognizes the distinct and unique Indian cultures  
33 present in the District. The Board urges both the Indian and the non-Indian populations of the  
34 District to learn and acknowledge the historical perspectives and values of the other.

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36 The Board has emphasized its commitment to full opportunity for all children to participate in  
37 school programs and activities, through a number of policies and actions. The Board wants to  
38 emphasize its commitment to Indian students through the establishment of this Policy for Indian  
39 Education. This policy is intended to provide for the effective and meaningful participation by  
40 Indian parents and students in the planning and administration of relevant educational services  
41 and programs under the authority of the District and its Board, with the goal being full and equal  
42 opportunity for Indian and non-Indian students alike to participate in all programs and activities  
43 operated under District jurisdiction.

1 The Board recognizes and respects the strong desire of the Indian community for self-

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3 page 2 of 2

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5 determination through effective Indian participation in the field of education. The Board strongly  
6 recommends that the school system exercise initiative in implementing educational programs  
7 meeting the needs of all District students, including Indian students. The Board believes that  
8 diversity of gender, ability, culture, and background is a strength to be respected.

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10 **Vision**

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12 The Board supports and encourages as visionary goals:

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14 1. Development of programs and services to identify and meet educational needs of Indian  
15 students, including but not limited to programs designed to provide mentor/tutor help,  
16 counseling, and self-enhancement;  
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18 2. Active involvement of the District's Indian tribes, communities, students, and parents in  
19 the total educational program;  
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21 3. Incorporation of Indian languages, history, literature, and heritage in the curricula  
22 through the curriculum-development process, which ensures community input.  
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24 4. The concept of equal access and opportunity to Indian and non-Indian students alike; and  
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26 5. Viable educational programs which allow all students, including Indian students, to  
27 compete, succeed, and excel in life areas of their choice.  
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29 Implementation of this Policy and Vision for Indian Education will be developed with input of  
30 the District community through a community goal-setting process.  
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34 Policy History:

35 Adopted on: 10-17-97

36 Revised on: 8-10-98; 5-14-07; 11-8-10

37 Reviewed on: 7-12-10;