



School Background Questionnaire

2009

Grades 4 and 8

National Indian Education Study

School Questionnaire: Grades 4 and 8

The questions in this survey are designed to gather information about schools that serve American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) students. In particular, we ask about the inclusion of native languages and cultural perspectives in the curriculum and about interactions between the school and the AI/AN community. Schools that serve only a few AI/AN students may adopt different approaches than schools that serve many such students. There are no wrong answers to these questions.

This questionnaire should be completed by the principal or the head administrator. Use only a No. 2 pencil to answer all hard-copy questions in this booklet. Some questions require you to answer by filling in the ovals completely. For other questions you are asked to fill in numbers. For these questions, please print the appropriate numbers LEGIBLY in each of the boxes provided. Keep all printing within the boxes.

Example:

150 should be written as

0	,	1	5	0
---	---	---	---	---

Other questions require you to PRINT ANSWERS LEGIBLY on the lines indicated. For all questions, do not make any stray marks.

1. What is your professional position (title) at this school?

VC190540

2. Counting this year, how many years have you held this position at this school? If less than 1 year total, enter "01."

VC962896

--	--

 Years

VC962914

3. Counting this year, how many years has the current principal or head of school held his/her position at this school? If less than 1 year total, enter "01." *If you answered "principal" or "head of school" to question 1, skip to question 4.*

 Years

VC962916

4. Which of the following describes your school? Fill in **all** ovals that apply.

- Ⓐ Regular public school
 Ⓑ Charter public school
 Ⓒ Alternative school
 Ⓓ Bureau of Indian Education school
 Ⓔ Tribal contract/grant school
 Ⓕ Other nonpublic school

VC962919

5. How many American Indian and/or Alaska Native students are enrolled at your school? (Include both enrolled tribal members and descendents in your calculations.)

 , Students

VC962921

6. Do you have access to information about the specific sources of funding that are provided to your school program?

- Ⓐ Yes → Go to Question 7.
 Ⓑ No → Skip to Question 8.

7. For this school year, has funding from any of the following sources been used to provide educational services and support for American Indian or Alaska Native students? Some of the sources are designated specifically for American Indian or Alaska Native education, while others are intended for broader use. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	I don't know.	
a. Title I funds (Compensatory Education)	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190549
b. Title II funds (Professional Improvement)	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190550
c. Title III or other bilingual or ESL/ELL funds	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190551
d. Title VII, Indian Education Formula Grant	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190552
e. Title VII, Discretionary Grant under Indian Education	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190553
f. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funds	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190555
g. Impact Aid Program	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190556
h. Johnson-O'Malley Grant	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190557
i. Alaska Native Education Programs	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190589
j. Tribal or Village funds	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190592
k. Other funding sources related to American Indian or Alaska Native education (e.g., grants, donations, tuition, etc.)	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC190594

VC962933

8. What are the main ways in which the families of your students, or members of your local community, are involved with your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Participate in parent-teacher organizations	☐ A	☐ B	VC962934
b. Participate in open houses or back-to-school nights	☐ A	☐ B	VC962936
c. Participate in parent-teacher conferences	☐ A	☐ B	VC962937
d. Participate in making school curriculum decisions	☐ A	☐ B	VC962938
e. Participate in volunteer programs	☐ A	☐ B	VC962940
f. Other (please specify):	☐ A	☐ B	VC962941

VC962942

9. In a typical school year, how many times has a member of the American Indian or Alaska Native community done the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never	1-2 times	3 or more times	I don't know.	
a. Visited the school to discuss education issues with students and staff, other than a conference regarding an individual student	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC962943
b. Visited the school to share American Indian or Alaska Native traditions and culture with students and staff	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC962944
c. Participated in Indian Education Parent Groups	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC962946

10. In a typical school year, how many times have officials (including elders) of the American Indian or Alaska Native community done the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never	1-2 times	3 or more times	I don't know.	
a. Met with school officials on education issues, other than a conference regarding an individual student	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC962949
b. Attended meetings with school personnel with or on behalf of (other) parents	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC962950

11. How many of the following courses and programs about American Indian or Alaska Native traditions and culture are offered at your school each year? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	None	1	2	3	4 or more	
a. Year-long course	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E	VC962954
b. Semester-long course	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E	VC962956
c. Workshop or unit	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E	VC962957
d. Clubs	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E	VC962958
e. Other	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E	VC962961

12. Were all your answers to questions 11 a, b, and c “none?”

☐ A Yes → *Skip to Question 14.*

☐ B No → *Go to Question 13.*

VC962963

13. Are the following courses or programs about American Indian or Alaska Native traditions and culture required or elective for students at your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Required	Elective	Not offered	
a. Year-long course	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC962964
b. Semester-long course	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC962966
c. Workshop or unit	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	VC962967

VC963001

14. Do students in your school receive instruction about American Indian or Alaska Native cultures in any of the following areas? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Oral language	☐ A	☐ B	VC963005
b. Written language	☐ A	☐ B	VC963007
c. History of tribes or cultural groups	☐ A	☐ B	VC963008
d. Traditions and customs	☐ A	☐ B	VC963009
e. Arts, crafts, music, or dance	☐ A	☐ B	VC963010
f. Tribal or village government	☐ A	☐ B	VC963013
g. Current events and issues important to tribes or cultural groups	☐ A	☐ B	VC963014

VC963015

15. To what extent are books and materials on American Indian or Alaska Native issues/ topics available in the school library?

- ☐ A Not at all
- ☐ B Small extent
- ☐ C Moderate extent
- ☐ D Large extent

16. How much influence does each of the following standards have on your school's **reading/language arts** curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	No influence	A little influence	Some influence	A lot of influence	Unaware of standards
a. State content standards	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
b. District content standards	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
c. Standards developed by national professional organizations	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
d. American Indian or Alaska Native content or cultural standards	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E

VC963019

VC963020

VC963021

VC963022

VC963023

17. How much influence does each of the following standards have on your school's **mathematics** curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	No influence	A little influence	Some influence	A lot of influence	Unaware of standards
a. State content standards	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
b. District content standards	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
c. Standards developed by national professional organizations	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E
d. American Indian or Alaska Native content or cultural standards	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	☐ E

VC963025

VC963026

VC963027

VC963028

18. Considering all of the students in your school, to what extent is each of the following a problem in your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Student absenteeism	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963030
b. Student tardiness	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963031
c. Student health problems	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963032
d. Drug or alcohol use by students	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963033
e. Student misbehavior in class	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963034
f. Physical conflicts among students	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963035
g. Bullying	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963037
h. Low student aspirations	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963038
i. Low teacher expectations	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963039
j. Low family involvement	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963040

19. Which of the following types of student and family services are offered at your school on a regular basis? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Offered	Not offered	
a. Health services for students such as a school nurse	☐ A	☐ B	VC963042
b. Health services for families such as a community clinic	☐ A	☐ B	VC963043
c. Social or counseling services for students	☐ A	☐ B	VC963045
d. Social or counseling services for families	☐ A	☐ B	VC963047
e. Adult education programs for all ages	☐ A	☐ B	VC963048

20. In a typical school year, how often does your school provide each of the following opportunities for communication between school and families? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Teacher/family conferences (individual or group)	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963053
b. Information (for example, expectations, procedures, calendars) sent home about school	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963054
c. Written reports (for example, report cards) of child's performance sent home	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963055
d. Events at school in which families are invited to participate	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963056
e. Opportunities to participate in formulation of school policies and improvement plans	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963057
f. Opportunities to share American Indian or Alaska Native histories and traditions as part of the instructional program	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963058
g. Telephone calls with parents	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963059
h. Information provided through websites or e-mail	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	VC963060

21. About what percentage of students who were enrolled at the beginning of the school year is still enrolled at the end of the school year? Exclude students who transfer into the school during the school year in calculating this percentage.

- Ⓐ Less than 50%
- Ⓑ 50–59%
- Ⓒ 60–69%
- Ⓓ 70–79%
- Ⓔ 80–89%
- Ⓕ 90–94%
- Ⓖ 95–97%
- Ⓗ 98–100%

22. Please indicate what percentage of the individuals at your school is described by each of the following statements: Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	0%	1–5%	6–10%	11–25%	26–50%	51–75%	76–100%	I don't know.	
a. Teachers at this school for 3 or more years	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	VC963065
b. American Indian or Alaska Native teachers at this school	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	VC963073
c. American Indian or Alaska Native staff other than teachers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	VC963074

23. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one or more ovals**.

- ☐ A No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- ☐ B Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- ☐ C Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- ☐ D Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- ☐ E Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

24. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one or more ovals**.

- ☐ A White
- ☐ B Black or African American
- ☐ C Asian
- ☐ D American Indian or Alaska Native (Print the name of your American Indian tribe or Alaska Native group below. You may indicate more than one tribe or group.)

- ☐ E Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

25. In the space below, please share with us your thoughts about any other important issue(s) about your students, school, or community that are related to student academic performance, student aspirations, or other educational matters.
