

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOLS

The Board of Trustees believes that to increase student success and learning it is essential to foster a collaborative relationship where students and their families share responsibility for student learning. Therefore, each school will develop a Parental Involvement Plan. The Board directs each school to develop a plan to encourage parents/guardians to become involved in their children's education, including opportunities for parent and teacher collaboration in such areas as homework, attendance and discipline.

1. Parent Advisory Councils

- a. Each school shall establish a Parent Advisory Council at the beginning of each school year with assistance from district leadership as necessary.
- b. The Parent Advisory Council will collaborate with the school leadership team to review and evaluate the following:
 - i. student academic performance,
 - ii. other indicators of student success including attendance, behavior, and discipline,
 - iii. parent involvement, including effective parent involvement activities,
 - iv. school level policies, such as homework, dress code, and other pertinent issues.
 - v. ways to improve parent/guardian involvement including identifying barriers that may inhibit or prevent parents/guardians from more fully participating in school activities.
- c. For schools that receive Title I funding, the parent advisory council will also be responsible to review and evaluate the school's
 - i. Family/school compact,
 - ii. Parent involvement plan,
 - iii. Use of parent involvement funds, and
 - iv. The school's Title I program and plan for school improvement.

2. District Support and Assistance

- a. The district parent involvement coordinator/designee will provide support and technical assistance necessary to plan and implement effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, and

- b. will attend parent advisory councils as invited by schools that receive Title I funding to provide additional help and support.

3. Building the Capacity for Parents/Guardians and School Staff

- a. The district will assist each school in providing materials and training to help parents/guardians work with their children to improve their children's achievement.
- b. In order to improve communication between home and schools all information will be:
 - i. Sent to parents/guardians in a timely manner;
 - ii. Sent in a format that is easily readable; and
 - iii. To the extent practicable, sent in a language that parents/guardians understand.

4. Community Program Collaboration

- a. The district parent involvement coordinator/designee will provide parent involvement strategies for the families of children attending the Head Start program and coordinate with local library districts to support kindergarten readiness programs.

a. Additional Provisions for Title I Schools

- a. At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent/Designee will meet with Title I parents/guardians to review and evaluate the content and effectiveness of this policy,
- b. Parent involvement activities at Title I schools should include math, reading and/or other activities to support student learning.

DEFINITIONS

Parents/Guardians: as used in this policy includes legal guardians or other adults who are responsible for the child's welfare.

Parental/Guardian Involvement: means the participation of parents/guardians in regular, two-way meaningful, communication regarding student academic learning and other school activities including and ensuring that parents/guardians:

1. Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
2. Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
3. Are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

