

CHAPTER 9.00 - SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS

Parent / Family Involvement

9.101

The School Board recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the mission of the school district, which is to prepare students to achieve the highest learning standards, the schools and parents must work together as partners.

The term "parent" refers to any adult—mother, father, older sibling, aunt, uncle, grandparent, guardian, mentor—who plays a significant role in the care of a student.

Although parents are diverse in culture, language and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. This school district and the schools within its boundaries, in collaboration with parents, shall establish programs and practices that enhance parent involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

- I. To this end, the Board supports the development, implementation and regular evaluation of a parent involvement program in each school, which will involve parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles. The parent involvement programs will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature. They will include, but not be limited to the following components of successful parent involvement programs:
 - a. Communication between home and school is ongoing, two-way and meaningful.
 - b. Responsible parenting is promoted and supported.
 - c. Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.
 - d. Parents are welcome in school and their support and assistance are sought.
 - e. Parent education programs are offered.
 - f. Parents are partners in the decisions that affect children and families.
 - g. Community resources are utilized to strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning.
- II. The Board supports professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies.
- III. The Board recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.
- IV. The Board supports the development, implementation and regular evaluation of a program to involve parents in the decisions and practices of the school system, using to the degree possible, the components listed above.

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