

The School Board recognizes the value of establishing strong partnerships with parents in the education of their children. Working as partners, parents and educators can increase student achievement and promote positive student attitudes about school and learning. To this end, the Board, administration and staff shall take active measures to involve parents in their children's education and related decision making.

The following beliefs shall serve as the framework for parent involvement and partnerships with the schools:

1. Schools should be open, helpful and friendly, and resources should be clear and easily accessible to parents and families. Parents should feel welcome in the school, and their support and assistance should be sought.
2. Communication between home and school should be regular, two-way and meaningful. Effective communication requires school-initiated contact with the parents and parent-initiated contact with the schools where both parties provide vital information about a child's strengths, challenges and accomplishments and share their concerns. To effectively communicate, both parties must be aware of issues such as cultural diversity, language differences and special needs, and appropriate steps must be taken to allow clear communication for all participants.
3. Parents should be treated as full partners in the educational process and in decisions that affect children and families, and should be involved in developing District school improvement plans and suggesting changes in Board policies.
4. Resources should be made available to strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning. Assistance will be offered to help District staff plan parent involvement activities to improve student academic performance, and to assist parents in learning how to support their children academically at home and at school.
5. Responsible parenting should be promoted and supported. Parents should be linked to programs and resources within the school and community that provide support services to families, and linked to other parents and families for support.

The District Administrator or designee shall be responsible for annually evaluating parent involvement in District and school programs and reporting this information to the Board. The Board and administration shall review the evaluation to determine the policy's effectiveness and to identify any barriers to parent involvement. Changes shall be made as necessary.

Adoption Date: September 2024