

Nooksack Valley School District Parent Involvement Policy

- I. The Board believes that the education of children is a joint responsibility, one it shares with the parents and the community. During school hours, the Board, through its designated staff, strives to serve the interests of parents in providing for the safety, health and welfare of their children. While, the Board believes that it is the parents who have the ultimate responsibility for their children's in-school academic achievement and behavioral conduct, it is the school's responsibility to foster and nurture parental involvement in the educational process. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that parents:
 - A. Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - B. Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
 - C. 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.
- II. The Board of Directors adopts as part of this policy the following guidance for parent involvement. The District shall:
 - A. Put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its Title I schools consistent with federal laws including the development and evaluation of policy. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children;
 - B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in the planning and implementing of effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
 - C. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement;
 - D. Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs, such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction, Preschool Youngsters, State-run pre-schools;
 - E. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served with Title I funds including: identifying barriers to greater participation of parents in Title I-related activities, with particular attention to participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children; and
 - F. Involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement are spent.

Furthermore, the Board directs the superintendent to develop activities that will enhance home-school cooperation. Such activities may include, but not be limited to:

- A. Conducting parent-teacher-student conferences to communicate about student progress;
- B. Holding open houses;
- C. Disseminating building and room newsletters to parents on a regular basis;
- D. Conducting meetings of parents and staff members to explain and discuss matters of general interest with regard to child-school, child-home, or child-school-home relationships;
- E. Sponsoring or co-sponsoring special events of general interest to the school or community; and
- F. Providing interested parents of preschool children with information and/or training on successful parenting practices.

Finally, for the benefit of children, the Board believes that parents have a responsibility to encourage their child's performance in school by:

- A. Supporting the schools in requiring that the children observe all school rules and regulations, and by accepting their own responsibility for children's willful in-school behavior;
- B. Sending children to school with proper attention to their health, personal cleanliness and dress;
- C. Maintaining an active interest in the students' daily work and making it possible for the student to complete assigned homework through providing a quiet place and suitable conditions for study;
- D. Reading all communications from the school, and signing and returning them promptly when required;
- E. Cooperating with the school in attending conferences set up for the exchange of information on the child's progress in school; and
- F. Participating in in-school activities and special functions.

Legal References: PL 107-110, Section 1118(a)

Management Resources: *Policy News*, October 2008 Family Involvement Policy
Policy News, June 2005 Title I Parental Involvement Policy
Policy News, August 2003 No Child Left Behind Update

Nooksack Valley School District

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