Mineral County School District

Code: **KABA**
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PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

The Mineral County School District is a competency-based educational system that recognizes that parent and family involvement is essential to academic achievement. The term "parent" refers to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for students. Although parents come to our schools with diverse cultural backgrounds, primary languages, and needs, we assume they share a common interest in an excellent education for their children. School personnel, in collaboration with students, parents, and families, must establish and develop programs and opportunities that enhance parent and family involvement and reflect the needs of all involved.

Mineral County School District staff members are always willing to talk to any parent or family who has a concern regarding the educational process in our education system and the educational success of their child. Such efforts promote joint responsibility between parents and educators in making well-informed decisions for the children within our system.

The Board of Trustees encourages parents to make such contacts. Only through parents and schools working together can a child's full educational potential be achieved.

The Board of Trustees believes that parents and family members can become involved through:

Fulfilling basic parental responsibilities for a child's education and social development at home, such as:

- Making sure that children arrive at school well rested;
- Ensuring that children are appropriately clothed;
- Ensuring that their children are well fed; and
- Ensuring that dedicated space and time are provided for homework.
- Signing, returning, complying with, and having their children comply with the Educational Involvement Accords and the Education Code of Honor developed by the Nevada Department of Education and distributed each year or upon enrollment.

Working with their children, such as:

- Providing home-based learning activities for their children;
- Showing their children how they, themselves, value education;
- Monitoring homework; and
- Providing tutoring to your children and others.

Participating in and supporting school events, such as:

- Attending meetings and parent/teacher conferences;
- Attending school programs and sporting events;
- Volunteering time;
- Being a classroom aide;
- Serving as a chaperone for field trips or other events at the school; and Fundraising.

Serving as an advisor or decision maker, such as:

- Serving on a committee with responsibility for advising school administrators, including the school's Site Accountability Committee (SAC), the School Improvement Plan Team, the District Improvement Plan Team, the parent organization, etc.; and
- Helping in the governance of the school as a part of a planning and implementation team.

Being an advocate for the school and its programs in the community, such as:

- Vocally supporting efforts to increase school funding;
- Encouraging local businesses to contribute to school programs; and
- Serving as a part of a district-organized committee at community and legislative forums.

The Mineral County School Board supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of a parent and family involvement plan in every school, which will involve parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles. The parent and family involvement programs will be comprehensive and coordinated and must include, but are not limited to, the following components of successful parent and family involvement programs:

- Regular communication among home, school, and district, such as the use of newsletters, web pages, information sent home with students, phone calls, access to PowerSchool, local newspaper, e-mail, other technologies and marquees, meetings, and whenever possible, in the home language;
- Promotion and support of responsible parenting;
- Coordinate scheduling of activities involving students and parents of all schools in Mineral County School District to facilitate family involvement with a commitment to quarterly activities that include the following:
- Recognition that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning;
- A welcoming atmosphere for parents in the school and active solicitation of parents' support and assistance for school programs;
- Inclusion of parents as full partners in the decisions that affect their children;
- Availability of community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning;
- Make resources available to parents/families regarding educational and family issues (through sources like CAHS, CCLC, and the Family Resource Center);
- School staff involvement in parent organizations is highly encouraged;
- Parent involvement in learning activities at home, conferencing, school events, and volunteering in the classroom or at a school;
- Regular conferencing opportunities for parents and families with their student's teacher(s) to encourage and support student achievement. Conferences may include assessment review at all elementary, middle, and secondary schools.

Conferencing may be available during other than regular school hours;

- Quarterly meetings of a district-wide parent involvement committee
- Train parent, family, and community as volunteers;
- Yearly progress towards goals via the School and District Accountability reports required by NRS will be provided.

The Mineral County School District will support parent involvement by having teachers or school administrators communicate the following information by letter; on websites; in newsletters, student handbooks or other effective methods, at the beginning of each school year or upon a student's enrollment:

Topics around which a parent might choose to contact the teacher and principal:

- The curriculum for the course
- Standards for grades and the dates of any major projects or tests
- The homework policy
- How to find resources for the course
- How parents might assist
- Dates of parent teacher conferences
- How report cards are made available to parents
- Classroom rules and procedures
- The dress code
- How parents of English Language Learners can get assistance
- Information on the Free and Reduced Lunch Program
- Opportunities to be involved in the schools
- The Parent Accord
- Code of Honor
- Other critical information specific to the class or the school

All schools will be held to the preceding policy. In addition, the Mineral County School District also agrees to implement the following federal requirements for all Title I schools:

I. General Expectations

• The Mineral County School District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, art A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

• Consistent with section 1118, the Mineral County School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, an educational involvement accord consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.

• The Mineral County School District will incorporate this district wide parental involvement

policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
• In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Mineral County School District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

• If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA ,is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the Mineral County School District will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.

• The Mineral County School District will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

• The Mineral County School District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
(C) that parents 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;
(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA**.**

The Mineral County School District will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Nevada State Parent information and Resource Center (PIRC).
II. Implementation
1. The Mineral County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
• The Mineral County School District will work in consultation with the Title I schools' School Improvement Planning teams (SIP) and parent teacher organizations (PTO) to develop and review each site's parent involvement plan.

2. The Mineral County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

• The Mineral County School District will require parent participation on all Title I school SIP committees and a parent-at-large will serve on the District Improvement Plan (DIP) committee.

3. The Mineral County School District will provide the following necessary coordination,

technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

4. The Mineral County School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs by:

> Facilitating collaboration among the members of the District Improvement Plan Committee, the School Improvement Plan Committees, other District committees, programs like Gear-Up and NIAA parent involvement groups. Strategies and activities will be coordinated and ideas shared to maximize parental involvement opportunities.

5. The Mineral County School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background).

The Mineral County School District will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

• The Mineral County School District will collect school site data on parent involvement annually through a district-wide needs assessment. Data will be collected from parents, synthesized by external program evaluation experts, and provided in individual reports to the schools and collectively to the District and site's administration, and leadership staff. The data will be provided to the schools in time to guide program improvements regarding more effective parental involvement for the next school calendar year, as outlined in the DIP and SIPs.

6. The Mineral County School District will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The Mineral County School District will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --

- the State's academic content standards,
- the State's student academic achievement standards,
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- the requirements of Part A,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and

• how to work with educators:

The Title I schools use the following programs and best practices to build parents' capacity in understanding critical topics:

- Family Math
- Family Literacy
- Volunteer/Parent Training
- Partnerships
- Volunteer Reading Program
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Parent Conferences

B. The Mineral County School District will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement through:

- Family Math
- Family Literacy
- Volunteer/Parent Training
- Partnerships
- Volunteer Reading Program
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Family Involvement Team

C. The Mineral County School District will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

The Mineral County School District will work provide professional development on parent involvement to its administrators, teachers, and support staff. The training will include information on how to positively utilize existing resources such as the Nevada State Educational Involvement Accord and parent groups.

D. The Mineral County School District will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

E. The Mineral County School District will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

Regular communication will be provided among home, school, and district, such as the use of newsletters, web pages, Parent Portal, email, other technologies and marquees, meetings, and whenever possible, in the home language.

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy, along with the Title I, Part A specific components, has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by documentation of outreach to Title I parents.

This policy will be distributed to all parents of participating Title I, Part A students at the beginning of each school year.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s): NRS 392.457, NRS 392.4575