

Holbrook Public Schools

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Parent, family and community participation in local schools is vital to student achievement. Therefore, it is the policy of the Holbrook School Committee that every school or program providing direct instructional services to students will involve parents, families, advocates for children, and the community in the education of students and shall have an active organization for fostering family/community involvement. In recognition of the fact that some students do not have parents, the words "parents" or "family" are used in this policy to denote any form of extended family or concerned adult who is advocating for a student.

Parents and families are assured access to schools, their child(ren)'s classroom and/or school sponsored activities for the purpose of observing class procedure, teaching materials and class conduct so long as this observation is not disruptive to the classroom procedure or learning activity. Procedures for visiting schools are explained in the regulations.

School personnel will be at their schools and available to students, parents and other patrons at least 15 minutes before starting time for classes in the morning and at least 15 minutes after the closing of school in the afternoon unless a different time has been arranged.

The School Committee believes that a child's education is enhanced by a close partnership between the home, the school, and the community. The Holbrook Public Schools will support family involvement in student achievement by providing a range of opportunities for learning and enhancing parenting skills that encourage student achievement.

Parents/families are expected to be involved in their child(ren)'s education. It is the district's goal that families will encourage and participate in their child(ren)'s academic success. Families should emphasize the importance of students being in attendance each school day, taking studies seriously, valuing education, and following through with suitable learning activities at home.

The district will hold parents accountable for their child(ren)'s attendance in school as outlined in Massachusetts statutes.

Families must have opportunities to work with the schools. The schools will provide these opportunities through many means including, but not limited to, personal contacts by staff members, parent-teacher conferences, volunteering, workshops for families, open houses, and written communications of many kinds.

A special effort will be made to reach out to families whose primary language is not English or whose culture or family conditions may make it difficult for them to participate in their child(ren)'s education.

If parents are confused or concerned about their child(ren)'s education, they should contact the school employee closest to the source of concern. If the response does not satisfy the parent, an appeal should be made to the immediate supervisor of the employee who was originally contacted.

School personnel will honor written requests from parents that their child(ren) be excused from any activity which is contrary to their religious beliefs or from using challenged curriculum materials unless there is a compelling concern which would prevent such a release. A reasonable alternative activity will be provided for any student so excused.

SOURCE: MASC

Adopted: January 23, 2008