

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The board believes that the education of children is a joint responsibility, one it shares with the parents and the community. To insure that the best interests of the child are served in this process, a strong program of communication and/or collaboration between home and school must be maintained. The board believes that teachers and parents should strive to be partners in setting career and educational goals for students and in developing a program of study to achieve these goals.

The board also recognizes that each school and the families and community it serves is different. Therefore, each school must have its own approach to parent and community partnerships. Working together, staff and parents at each school shall work to achieve the following:

- A. Multiple techniques assure that:
 - 1 all parents understand their children's school experience; and
 - 2 the school staff understands parents' and community expectations for the school.
- B. School staff work with parent and community volunteers in the school in ways that are beneficial to students and that strengthen school and community relations.
- C. Families receive information about how to support their children's learning at home and will have access to someone to advise them when they encounter difficulty.
- D. Staff members are able to refer parents to resources for assistance in developing their parenting skills, or to obtain advice on family financial, health or welfare issues. Connections are maintained with community resources and agencies to assure current information and continuous cooperation.
- E. Representatives of parents and the community served by the school have a full and equal role in the school's student learning improvement team. All parents have the opportunity to review and advise on their student's learning experiences.
- F. Partnerships with other units of government and public and private social, health, welfare and fraternal agencies are developed to create a community support system to strengthen the family's ability to guide the academic and character development of their children.

Cross References:	Board Policy	2321	Guest Speakers
		4210	School Support Organizations
		4220	Citizens' Advisory Committee
		5430	Volunteers

Legal References:	RCW	28A.615.020, 030	School involvement program
Adoption Date:		04/16/96	
Revised:		02/06/07	