NORTH THURSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS MONITORING REPORT

EL-9 RELATIONSHIP WITH STUDENTS, PARENTS/GUARDIANS, AND THE PUBLIC

FROM: Troy Oliver, Superintendent
DATE: June 17, 2025

EL-9 Relationship with Students, Parents/guardians, and the Public: With respect to relationships and interactions with students, parents/guardians, and the public, the Superintendent will not allow situations, conditions, procedures, or decisions which do not ensure these stakeholders are approached with respect, dignity, and courtesy at the district level and within each school and classroom. This monitoring report focuses on criteria 4, 5, 6, and 8.

Policy Criterion 4: Ensuring students and parents/guardians are informed regarding what may be expected and not expected from the programs and services offered by North Thurston Public Schools.

Accordingly, the Superintendent will not allow situations, conditions, procedures, or decisions which do not ensure these stakeholders are approached with respect, dignity, and courtesy at the district level and within each school and classroom.

Superintendent/CEO Interpretation:
The Superintendent shall not operate in such a way that students and parents/guardians are uninformed about programs and services in NTPS.

Superintendent/CEO Evidence Report:
The following policies and practices are examples of the ways that our district ensures that we do not fail to communicate about programs and services.

Practices:

- Board meetings routinely provide opportunities for patrons to learn about district programs and services. Monitoring reports and other agenda items provide information about relevant programs, services, and initiatives. The public is welcome to attend all Board meetings. We post Board meeting minutes and highlights on the website. We also use social media posts to communicate about what happens at Board meetings.
- Our strategic plan lays out our goals and outcomes. Our website on the strategic plan has a “Check our progress!” section where patrons can get updated information.

- Our district website provides information about budget, district committees, and links to school websites. The Family Resources Directory page provides information to patrons about a wide variety of programs and services including Advanced Placement, busing, web links to learning resources, enrollment, equity, food and nutrition, the Guaranteed Admission Program, support for unhoused families, technology support, our highly capable program, mental health support, military family support, our Native student program, PBIS, preschool and transitional Kindergarten, safety, Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, summer school, testing, transfers, translations, volunteering, and more.
- Each school maintains a website specific to the programs and course offerings at their school.
- The NTPS Buzz is a monthly e-newsletter that highlights timely information for families, staff and community. Schools also provide recurring emails and newsletters to their parents, keeping them abreast of school-wide initiatives and news of interest.
- The NTPS Community Connections newsletter is mailed to over 46,000 residents and includes updates on the Board, construction projects, and more.
- Parent Square: This service is used to broadcast messages relevant to parents/guardians to ensure they have access to up-to-date accurate information. Parents are informed by email, voice, and SMS throughout the year.
- District and school social media are great resources for patrons to learn about programs and services.
- For certain programs, the district uses paid marketing to ensure critical messages are delivered to our families and community.

Policy Criterion 5: Ensuring mechanisms are in place to engage students and parent/guardians in providing input into the learning process and experience.

Superintendent/CEO Interpretation:
The Superintendent shall not fail to engage students and parents/guardians in providing input into the learning process and experience.

Superintendent/CEO Evidence Report:
The following policies and practices support the engagement of parents/guardians in the learning process and experience.

Policies:

Policy 2020	Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials
Policy 2130	Program Evaluation
Policy 2163	Response to Intervention
Policy 2169	AIDS Prevention Education
Policy 2335	Health, Family Life, and Sex Education
Policy 2420	Progress Reports

Practices:

- Conferences, progress reports, and report cards: Conferences are held twice per year to ensure that parents/guardians are aware of student progress and to engage parents/guardians in the learning process. Report cards provide end of semester information including grades, and quarterly progress reports provide first quarter and third quarter updates.
- Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council: The Council is comprised of parents/guardians from each of our schools selected by Principals. In most cases the representative is the elected parent-teacher association president. The council meets a minimum of three times per year to discuss current issues and give parent feedback & input to the superintendent.
- The Instructional Materials Committee reviews instructional materials recommended for use in schools in accordance with District policy. The committee examines and evaluates instructional materials and makes recommendations to the Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning regarding the adoption of materials. The IMC also hears requests for reconsideration of instructional materials. The IMC consists of three teachers, two teacher-librarians, a principal, a representative from the North Thurston Education Association, and four community representatives, one each representing high schools, middle schools, elementary schools and the community at large.
- The Board hosts one to two Community Conversation events per year. These are designed to provide key stakeholders with the opportunity to hear from experts in a specific goal area of our Strategic Plan. Input generated is gathered for review on how we can strengthen our work in that goal area. Recent events included a focus on dual credit and world languages.
- NTPS Community Cafes provide opportunities for collaboration with families, community members, and students.
- Many schools have parent teacher organizations and booster clubs to facilitate parent/guardian engagement and communication. Each school has a volunteer coordinator who provides engagement opportunities.
- The NTPS Facilities Advisory Committee provides opportunities for community members, students, parents/guardians, and staff to provide input on facility planning recommendations for our growing district.
- NTPS annually surveys parents using a survey instrument created by the Center for Educational Excellence. Results are analyzed by CEE for school and district improvement.

Policy Criterion 6: Providing fair and transparent academic processes that support student learning.

Superintendent/CEO Interpretation:
The Superintendent shall not fail to establish conditions that provide fair and transparent processes.

Superintendent/CEO Evidence Report:
The following policies and practices ensure fair and transparent academic processes:

Policies:

2005 School Improvement Plans
2009 Shared Decision Making and School Improvement
2130 Program Evaluation
2020 Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials

Practices:

- In March 2025, the Board hosted a Community Conversation titled "Local to Global: The Power of World Languages." The primary focus of the event was to understand options for NTPS students to grow their skills and competence in more than one language aligning with Strategic Plan Goal 5: Preparedness for Post-Secondary Success, Outcome F. Increased percentage of students who earn a Washington State Seal of Biliteracy. The Board heard from a panel of educators, parents, and students that shared about their experience in a dual language program. The Boards determination commended the district for its progress in expanding dual language program. The Board directed the Superintendent to develop next steps to build out the current dual language program in elementary schools for student entering middle school and directed the Superintendent to enhance communication strategies to better inform parents, students and community regarding the benefits of dual language programs, supports for English Language Learners and world language course offerings.
- Each school creates a school improvement plan annually. This is available on their websites and is also presented in the fall and in the spring to our Board in an open session. Each school also hosts learning walks twice per year to share the practices in their classrooms with administrative colleagues to hone administrative understanding of instructional practices expected in NTPS classrooms.

Policy Criterion 8: Informing students and parents/guardians of this policy and providing a process for those who believe they have not been accorded a reasonable interpretation of their protections under this policy to share their concerns.

Superintendent/CEO Interpretation:
The Superintendent shall not fail to communicate this policy and shall not fail to provide a process to share students/parents/guardian concerns.

Superintendent/CEO Evidence Report:
The following policies and practices ensure that students and parents/guardians are aware of this policy and have a way to share concerns:

Practices:

- Executive Limitations 9 is posted on our website. Regular monitoring reports at Board meetings are also posted on the website so patrons can see our progress.
- Procedure 2020 outlines the process for parents to challenge instructional materials used in the district.
- Policy and Procedure 4312 outlines our patron/parent grievance process.

Conclusion:

The Superintendent/CEO evidence stated above demonstrates that we are in compliance with these criteria in this Executive Limitations Policy.