

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 1.03**  
**PARENT EMPOWERMENT**

- (1) The Board acknowledges, affirms, and embraces parents/guardians and families as the first and foremost educators of their children.
  
- (2) Further the Board:
  - (a) commits to provide the resources necessary to sustain the intent of this policy by offering the support needed to increase parental knowledge, access, accountability, and decision making within the district;
  - (b) recognizes and encourages parental involvement, as stated in the Milwaukee Public Schools Parent Empowerment Policy;
  - (c) commits to respecting and empowering all parents/guardians;
  - (d) commits to eliminating barriers to parental empowerment;
  - (e) commits to the establishment of a parent organization in each school, with the organizational format to be determined by the parents;
  - (f) commits to broadening parental input into the development of all policies, plans, and procedures that have an impact on the education of children in the Milwaukee Public Schools;
  - (g) acknowledges that parents/guardians have a right to advocate for their children and to be accorded respect by all Milwaukee Public Schools employees;
  - (h) commits to ensure that each school forms a School Engagement Council, which is the shared decision-making group comprising at least 51% parent representatives and not more than 49% school community representatives. The school community representatives are to include staff and at least two students from the middle- and high-school levels. Parent representatives are to be chosen by parents, and student representatives by students. Community representatives could include the business community and community agencies and organizations;
  - (i) commits to establishing written and formalized procedures for hearing and resolving the complaints and concerns of parents through the parent service center in a timely manner;
  - (j) commits to holding an annual parent orientation and training for all parents/guardians and families of Milwaukee Public School students;
  - (k) commits to ensure that each school has at least two parent delegates that serve on the District Advisory Council.

**History:** Adopted 11-23-92; revised 6-30-93; 2-25-95; 07-29-10; 10-26-17

**Previous Coding:** Admin. Policy ABD, prior to May 1995

**Legal Ref.:** W.S. 119.16(1)