PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

Code **KB** *Issued* **4/18**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for the involvement of parents/legal guardians and families in the education of their children.

The board believes it can impact student achievement by improving the quality and quantity of parent and family engagement in the education of their children.

The Charleston County School District encourages, supports, and values the participation and involvement of parents/legal guardians and families in the educational experiences of their children. The district recognizes each parent/legal guardian as their child's first teacher and acknowledges the powerful influence of parents/legal guardians on their child's life. Charleston County School District shall develop family-friendly schools, offices, and programs that welcome and serve parents/legal guardians and families in positive and supportive environments.

Students learn best when families and schools work together and develop relationships of shared responsibility and mutual support. The goal shall be to meaningfully collaborate with parents/legal guardians of students of all ages and all grades. Charleston County School District recognizes that families are diverse in culture, language, and needs, and shall implement strategies to enhance effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications about school programs and student progress.

The district shall assist parents/legal guardians in learning how home environments can support the academic achievement and overall success of students. Parents/Legal guardians and families are encouraged to be involved in their children's learning at home through homework and other curriculum related activities. Communicating the value of an education and the importance of high expectations shall be emphasized. Charleston County School District embraces the responsibility to help parents/legal guardians access and secure educational information, services, and opportunities for their children. Strategies such as school-based parent resource rooms, parenting and child development classes, home visitation opportunities, and adult education programs shall be offered to support parents/legal guardians. Special assistance shall be provided to ensure that non-English speaking parents/legal guardians also participate as full partners in their child's education.

Parents/Legal guardians make valuable contributions to the educational process and shall be included as participants in important school and district decisions. Parents/Legal guardians are encouraged to participate in parent organizations, councils, and clubs at both the school and district level, and to serve as volunteers for classroom, school, and districtwide activities. Charleston County School District shall strive to improve the recruitment, training, work, and schedules of parent and family volunteers to more fully support students and school programs.

As a priority focus for the district, parent and family engagement goals, initiatives, and evaluation strategies shall be incorporated into the strategic and school renewal planning processes and shall be supported, as appropriate, through the allocation of district and special revenue resources. Professional development opportunities for teachers, administrators, and other district employees shall be offered to enhance the ability of schools to effectively serve all students, parents/legal guardians, and families. Charleston County School District shall recognize schools with exemplary parental and family engagement programs and disseminate these best practices throughout the district. The district shall also collaborate and cooperate with businesses, community agencies, and faith-based organizations to support the needs of parents/legal guardians and families and to provide services to the community.

 (see next page)

The superintendent shall conduct, with the involvement of parents/legal guardians, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy.

In fulfilling its responsibilities to the parents/legal guardians and students of Charleston County School District, the board of trustees shall adhere to the mandates of all state and federal legislation addressing parental and family engagement issues.

Any proposed amendment to this policy shall be presented to the policy committee and the board.

The superintendent will develop administrative regulations, as necessary, to implement this policy and meet requirements of the law.

Cf. IG, IGCA, IHAK, IHAQ, IHBC, IHCA, IKF, JLD, KBB

Adopted 4/28/03
Revised/Reviewed 1/23/06, 3/25/13, 4/23/18, 5/4/19, 5/16/20, 5/15/21, 5/14/22, 4/29/23, 4/20/24, 4/26/25, 4/18/26 (smb/rf)

Legal References:

A. Federal Law:
   1. Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Pub. L. No 114-95.
   2. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

B. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:
   1. Sections 59-28-100 through 59-28-220 - Parental Involvement in Their Children's Education Act.
   2. Section 59-139-90 - Strategic plans to include stated goals and objectives for parent involvement.

C. State Board of Education Regulations:
   1. R43-205 - Administrative and professional personnel qualifications, duties, and workloads.
   2. R43-234 - Defined program, grades 9-12.