



## **1004 - Parent Involvement and Participation in the Education of Their Children**

Sevier School District Board of Education recognizes that parental involvement is the key to student academic achievement. The term parent within this policy refers to a parent or legal guardian of the child. When parents are involved in their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievements of students are positively enhanced.

Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children; consequently, parents are vital and necessary partners with the schools throughout their children's school career. Sevier School District, in collaboration with parents, teachers, students, and administrators shall develop and promote strategies that:

- Build effective two-way communication between the home and school.

Effective communication requires school-initiated contact with the parent and parent-initiated contact with the school where both parties provide vital information about a child's strengths, challenges, and accomplishments. Appropriate steps shall be taken to allow clear communication between the schools and the parents. Schools shall follow other Board policies regarding the use of School Community Councils, Parent/Teacher, IEP, SEP, and SEOP conferences to build open and effective communication with parents.

- Support and encourage responsible parenting.

The family plays a key role in helping to create a child's educational environment. School personnel and program staff shall support positive parenting by respecting and affirming the strengths and skills needed by parents to fulfill their role.

- Strengthen the parent's role in the learning process.

Student achievement increases when parents are actively involved in the learning process. The District and/or schools shall therefore provide opportunities for parents to learn effective ways to support their child's educational needs including information about how parents can support student behaviors such as punctuality and regular attendance that are closely tied to student success in school.

- Invite and welcome parents as volunteers in the schools.

Parent volunteers are essential for advancing student achievement.

Therefore, parents shall be welcome and invited to volunteer at all educational levels. Volunteer opportunities shall capitalize on the expertise, interests, and skills of the parents, and have direct connection to school and District goals.

- Consider parents as full partners in educational decisions that affect their children.

Parents and educators have a mutual responsibility to make informed decisions related to all aspects of their child's education. Schools shall actively enlist parent participation in decision-making. Further, efforts shall be made to recruit and support participation by parents representing diverse student groups such as: Limited English proficient, special needs, gifted and talented, and homeless. The role of parents in shared decision-making shall be continually evaluated, refined, and expanded at the District and school levels.

#### Title I - Parent Involvement District Plan

Sevier School District will develop a plan to specifically involve the parents of children receiving services in schools within the District receiving Title I funds.

This parent involvement plan shall:

- Be developed in collaboration with parents, teachers, and administrators in Title I programs.
- Involve parents, teachers, and administrators in the process of reviewing the implementation of the plan and making suggested improvements.
- Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- Provide strategies to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
- Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other educational programs.
- Provide, with the involvement of parents, for an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement procedures in improving the academic quality of the schools served.
- Provide strategies to involve parents in the activities of the schools served by Title I programs.

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