

## SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 79

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### SCHOOL, COMMUNITY AND HOME RELATIONS

The School Board recognizes the importance of having a strong partnership between the school system and the parents of our students as well as the community at large. It is therefore the policy of the Board to define standards for involvement between the schools, the community and the parents of all students enrolled in the District's school. The Superintendent is directed to implement these standards.

- The District school is a welcoming place, clearly accessible to parents and the community.
- Communication between home and school is regular, two-way and meaningful.
- Parents are full partners in the educational decisions that affect children and families.
- Parents will be encouraged to visit their school for beginning of the year events such as "Open House" and new student orientations. These events will be used to disseminate information on school policies, discipline procedures, assessment tools and school goals.
- Opportunities are provided to guide parents on ways to assist with homework, give feedback to teachers and how parents can help their children improve skills and perform well on assessments.
- Parents are encouraged to attend school-sponsored parent workshops to learn about parenting skills, health, safety, nutrition, home environments that support education and other topics of child and adolescent development throughout the year.
- Reasonable efforts will be made to communicate with parents in their primary language or in the language in which they feel comfortable.
- For the purposes of this policy, the term "parent" refers to any adult – mother, father, older sibling, aunt, uncle, grandparent, guardian, mentor – who plays a significant role in the care of a student or students enrolled in the District's school.
- Students and parents will receive information regarding cultural, recreational, academic, health, social and other resources that serve families within the community.

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### SCHOOL, COMMUNITY AND HOME RELATIONS (Cont.)

- The support of area businesses, agencies and faith-based organizations will be sought through financial, goods and services, and volunteer contributions.
- Partnerships will be developed with local organizations, local city and county governments, natural resources, and talented individuals to strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning.
- Student participation in community service will be encouraged.
- Business partnerships will also be developed to assist students in the successful transition to employment or further education.

#### **Legal References:**

NH Code of Administration Rules, Section Ed. 306.04 (a) (11), Policy Development  
NH Code of Administration Rules, Section Ed. 306.04 (k), Policy Development

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: November 8, 2011  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: December 13, 2011  
Adopted: December 13, 2011

**TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION**

The Board endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I and encourages the regular participation by parents of Title I eligible children in all aspects of the program. The education of children is viewed as a cooperative effort among the parents, school and community. In this policy, the word “parent” also includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the child’s schools.

Pursuant to federal law, the District will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parent involvement policy.

At the required annual meeting of Title I parents, parents will have opportunities to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program for the next school year. Proposed activities shall be presented to fulfill the requirements necessary to address the requirements of parental involvement goals.

In addition to the required annual meeting, at least three additional meetings shall be held, at various times of the day and/or evenings, for parents of children participating in the Title I program. These meetings shall be used to provide parents with:

1. Information about programs provided under Title I;
2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and
4. The opportunity to bring parent comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school’s Title I program, to the district level.

Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs. The parents of children identified to participate in Title I programs shall receive from the school Principal and Title I staff an explanation of the reasons supporting each child’s selection for the program, a set of objectives to be addressed, and a description of the services to be provided. Opportunities will be provided for the parents to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their child’s progress. Parents will also receive guidance as to how they can assist in the education of their children at home.

**Resources:**

*“National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs” National PTA (reprinted May, 1998); Improving America’s Schools Act, P.L. No. 103-382, See 1112; Local Education Agency Plans, P.L. 107-110, “No Child Left Behind Act of 2001,” Title I-Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, Sec. 1118 Policy.*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: February 23, 2009

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: March 9, 2009

Adopted: March 9, 2009