

PARENT/FAMILY/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Descriptor Code: IFCDD

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL SCHOOLS

The school district shall be governed by the statutory definition of parent involvement as cited in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and shall carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition.¹

The Board shall implement the following as required by federal and state legislation²:

- The school district will put into operation activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents.
- The school district shall incorporate activities and strategies that support this district wide family and community engagement policy into its Tennessee Comprehensive System wide Planning Process (TCSPP).
- The TCSPP shall include procedures by which parents may learn about the course of study for their children and have access to all learning materials.
- The TCSPP shall include strategies for parent participation in the district's schools which are designed to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as homework, attendance, and discipline.
- If the school district's TCSPP is not satisfactory to the parents, the school district shall submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- To the extent practicable, the school district and its schools shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- The school district shall appoint a Family and Community Advisory Council that will annually assess, through consultation with parents, the effectiveness of the Family and

Community Engagement Program and determine what action needs to be taken, if any, to increase parental and community participation. In order to accomplish this, each advisory council shall be composed of representatives from parents of students in elementary and middle schools, community business leaders, a member of the school board, and representatives from the school district.

- Every school district shall ensure Title 1 schools are in compliance with the *No Child Left Behind Act/ESEA Waiver*.
- System-wide family engagement events are planned, coordinated and scheduled for all parents to attend. The topics that are addressed include ADHD, Autism, Healthy Living, Environmental Recycling, TCAP Family Nights, and Family Reading Nights.
- The school district will coordinate and integrate Title I-A parental involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs, such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, State-run preschool programs, and Title III language instructional programs.

Legal References:

1. PL 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
2. TCA 49-6-7001-7003; State Board of Education – Tennessee Parent Family Involvement Policy.

Adopted: August 8, 2005
Revised: February 14, 2011
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