

POLICY 1120

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CAREGIVER INVOLVEMENT

The District recognizes that parent/guardian/caregiver involvement is a key to academic achievement and is a shared responsibility between the school and family. In accordance with the Reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) also known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the Kenosha Unified School District will provide opportunities for parent/guardian/caregiver participation, shared decision making, and community collaboration in District and school education programs.

In order to enhance parental/guardian/caregiver involvement, six essential elements are to be promoted.

1. Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful. Effective communication requires school-initiated contact with the parent/guardian/ caregiver and parent/guardian/caregiver-initiated contact with the school where both parties provide vital information about a child's strengths, challenges, and accomplishments. To effectively communicate, both parties must be aware of issues such as cultural diversity and language differences and appropriate steps must be taken to allow clear communication for all participants.
2. Responsible parenting/guardianship/caregiving is promoted and supported. The family plays a primary role in their child's education. Parents/guardians/caregivers are linked to programs and resources within the community that provide support services to families.
3. Schools are open, inviting, and resources are clear and easily accessible to parents/guardians/caregivers and families and are actively seeking parental support and assistance for school programs. Parents/guardians/caregivers are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought. Capitalizing on the expertise and skills of the parents/guardians/caregivers strengthens the family, school and community partnership. School and parent/guardian/caregiver capacity for strong parent/guardian/caregiver involvement is necessary.
4. Parents/guardians/caregivers are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families and are involved in developing District school improvement plans and site-based strategic planning initiatives.
5. Community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning. Technical assistance and coordination will be offered to help schools plan parent/guardian/caregiver involvement activities to improve student and school academic performance.
6. Parent/guardian/caregiver involvement strategies are incorporated with other District and school programs that focus on family and child development.

The annual evaluation of parent/guardian/caregiver involvement in District and school programs will be conducted through the Community School Relations Manager.

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes

Sections 118.019 [human growth and development]
118.15 (1)(d) [program or curriculum modifications]
118.153 [children at risk programming]
118.33 [parent opt out of testing]
118.34 [gifted and talented programming]

Chapter 115 Subchapter V [programs for students with disabilities]

Chapter 115 Subchapter VII [bilingual-bicultural programs]

Wisconsin Administrative Code

PI 13 [bilingual-bicultural/ELL programs]

PI 25 [children at risk programs]

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [programs for students with disabilities]

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 [Title I parent involvement, parent and student privacy rights, reporting student achievement, etc]

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CROSS REF.: 1110, Parent/guardian/caregiver Surveys
1210, Communication - School-Sponsored (including crisis)
1212, Non-English Language Version Printed Materials
1600, Visitors
1812, Relations with Parent-Teacher Organizations
2720, Shared Decision Making
5910, Children of Divorced or Separated Parents
6100, Mission, Beliefs and Objectives
6330, Privacy Rights in District Programs/Activities
6413.1, Family Life Education (Instruction in Human Sexuality)
6421, Programs for Students with Disabilities
6426, Student Program or Curriculum Modifications
6427, Individual and Remedial Services
6452, Student Progress Reporting
6460, Testing Programs
6461, Parental Consent for Testing
6470, Student Records
6810, Teaching about Controversial Issues
Title I Program Plan
Bilingual-Bicultural (ELL) Program Plan
Special Education Policy and Procedure Manual

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS: 6413.1 Guidelines for Communicating with
Family Life Curriculum Objectives

AFFIRMED: December 14, 2004
December 19, 2006