

## Community Relations

### School-Family-Community Partnership

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school district to educate all students effectively, the schools and parents/guardians must work as knowledgeable partners.

Although parents/guardians are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. This school District and the schools within its boundaries, in collaboration with parents/guardians, shall establish programs and practices that enhance parent/guardian involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

To this end, the Board supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of a parent/guardian involvement program in each school, which will involve parents/guardians at all grade levels in a variety of roles. The parent/guardian involvement programs will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature. They will include, but not be limited to, the following components of successful parent/guardian involvement programs:

1. responsible parenting is promoted and supported;
2. communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful;
3. parents/guardians play an integral role in assisting student learning;
4. parents/guardians are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought;
5. parents/guardians are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families; and
6. community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
7. Provide for two flexible parent-teacher conferences each school year.

The Board supports professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance understanding of effective parent/guardian involvement strategies. The Board also recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parent/guardian participation.

In addition to programs at the school level, the Board supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of a program to involve parents/guardians in the decisions and practices of the school district, using to the degree possible the components listed above.

Engaging parents/guardians is essential to improved student achievement. This school district shall foster and support active parent/guardian involvement.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-4g Parent and community involvement in schools

Policy adopted: March 10, 2009  
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WILLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Willington, Connecticut