

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The Board of Education of the Waterloo Community School District believes that parental involvement is a vital part of our educational program. Strong family/school connections, focused on students' academic learning, have consistently been shown to be associated with improved student achievement. The shared beliefs and expectations that result from these connections have the potential to improve relationships, strengthen public schools, and ensure students are prepared to participate and compete in a global environment.

The ongoing efforts to improve parental involvement in students' education should promote a strong community-wide value for the importance of education and ultimately increase student achievement. Toward that end, efforts to improve parental involvement will ensure:

1. School staff sustain long term effective relationships with parents and the community that are focused on student learning and increasing student academic success.
 - a. Staff have the knowledge and skills they need to effectively and meaningfully involve parents in the education of their children.
 - b. Schools provide a variety of ways parents can stay connected to their child's education.
 - c. Meaningful communication is facilitated among staff, parents, and the community.
2. All education providers are connected in the best interest of students.
3. Parents and staff are capable and empowered to be equal and active partners, in the best interest of students, within a welcoming culture of mutual respect and support.
4. Parents have a clear understanding of what their children will learn (know and be able to do) at each grade level, and will be given the information and tools necessary to support their child's education.
5. Community organizations/agencies/and businesses are key partners in supporting parent's capacity to be involved in their child's education as well as extending the number of caring adults that focus on improving student learning.

Parent involvement strategies will be coordinated and aligned across grade levels, buildings and various programs.

The board, with the involvement of parents, will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of the parent involvement policy. Evaluation findings will be used to design strategies for more effective parent involvement.

The superintendent is responsible for notifying parents of this policy annually or within a reasonable time after it has been amended during the school year. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Ref.: No Child Left Behind, Title I, Sec. 1118, P.L. 107-110. (2002)

Adopted: 5/11/09
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