

## Community Relations

### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Building administrators shall advocate effective, comprehensive family involvement in the Ledyard Public Schools which will promote parents(s)/guardians(s) becoming active partners in the education of their children. Building administrators shall annually provide a written report to the Superintendent on parental involvement programs and efforts in their schools.

Each building administrator shall, with the input of staff members, parents and parent-teacher groups, develop and distribute guidelines for parental involvement, which are in line with the Board of Education parental involvement policy. This family-school partnership document shall also outline how parents, school staff, and students together will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how such a partnership helps each child succeed.

Each school shall convene an annual meeting, to which all parents are invited and encouraged to attend, in order to encourage parents to be involved in their children's education and to assure parents of the school's desire to work with them in all aspects of the children's learning.

Each school shall provide parents with:

- Timely information about programs and activities in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;
- A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- Opportunities for regular meetings (e.g., parent-teacher groups, school committees, etc.) to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children;
- Frequent reports on their children's progress;
- Reasonable access to staff and opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate;
- Assistance in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology.

Each school shall also ensure that opportunities are provided for the active participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of migratory children, and parents of homeless children, including providing information and school reports required, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

The following are examples of parental involvement programs for building administrators to consider. This list is not all encompassing and will be updated as new ideas for involving parents are generated.

#### **1. Keep parent(s)/guardians(s) thoroughly informed about their child's school and**

## **education.**

- Develop and distribute a comprehensive student handbook.
- Distribute information to parents(s)/guardian(s) on their school visitation rights.
- Open houses.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- Home visits.
- Progress reporting and report cards.
- Newsletter (monthly).

### **2. Encourage involvement in their child's school and education.**

- Support and encourage parent volunteer opportunities.
- Work with the school's parent-teacher groups to promote parent volunteer opportunities.

### **3. Establish effective two-way communication between all parents/guardians and the Board of Education and District personnel.**

- Monthly principal coffees.
- Work with parent-teacher group leadership to ensure parental input.
- Train personnel on how to collaborate effectively with families with diverse backgrounds, including backgrounds that might impede parental participation (e.g., illiteracy or language difficulty).

### **4. Seek the advice of parent(s)/guardian(s) on school governance issues and methods to fulfill the district's educational mission.**

- Work with the parent-teacher group leadership to ensure parental input.
- Establish a school-community advisory committee to identify, consider, and discuss educational problems and issues.

### **5. Inform parents/guardians on how they can assist their children's learning.**

- Provide information to parent(s)/guardian(s) on how they can help children learn, including activities that are related to classroom activities.
- Provide programs on how to establish a home environment that supports learning and appropriate behavior.
- Homework-hotline

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LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Ledyard, Connecticut