

Special Hearing-Parent and Guardian
Involvement in Education Practices, District
Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy,
Protection of Pupil Rights
Monday, July 14, 2025 6:00 PM
Boardroom at 1700 14th Avenue
1700 14th Ave
Nebraska City, NE 68410

1. Call to Order
 - 1.1. Roll Call
 - 1.2. Public Comment Time
2. Discussion/Questions/Comments
3. Adjournment

5057

District Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

The school district will jointly develop with parents a School-Parent-Student Compact that outlines how the parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

The written District Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be jointly developed and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable format and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. An annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be used to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and to remove barriers to participation.

The school district recognizes the unique needs of students who are being served in its Title I program, and the importance of parent and family engagement in the Title I program. Parent and family engagement in the Title I Program shall include, but is not limited to:

1. An annual meeting to which all parents of participating children will be invited to inform parents of their school's participation under this part, to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved. Invitations may take the form of notes sent with students or announcements in the school newsletter. Additional meetings may be scheduled, based upon need and interest for such meetings.
2. An explanation of the details for the child's and parents' participation, including but not limited to: curriculum objectives, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, type and extent of participation, parental input in educational decisions, coordination and integration with other Federal, State, and district programs, and evaluations of progress.
3. Opportunities for participation in parent involvement activities such as training to help parents work with their children to

improve achievement. A goal of parent activities is to provide parents with opportunities to participate in decisions relating to the education of their students, where appropriate.

4. The district will, to the extent practicable, provide parents of limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents with limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, are of a racial or minority background or parents of migratory children with opportunities for involvement in the Title I Program. Communication to parents about student progress and the district's other Title I Program communications will be provided in the language used in the home to the extent practicable. Responses to parent concerns will be provided in a timely manner.
5. Opportunities for parent-teacher conferences, in addition to those regularly scheduled by the school district, if requested by the parents or as deemed necessary by school district staff.
6. The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other programs in the community. These may include cooperation with other community programs such as Head Start and preschools and other community services such as the public library.
7. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

This policy shall be reviewed annually at the annual meeting where concerned parties can have a conversation about possible changes to the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Adopted on: December 21, 2016

Revised on: June 11, 2018

Reviewed on: July 13, 2020; July 12, 2021; July 11, 2022; July 10, 2023; July 8, 2024

5018

Parent and Guardian Involvement in Education Practices

The school district recognizes the importance of parental and guardian involvement in the education of their children. The school district will take the following steps to ensure that the rights of parents and guardians to participate in the education of their children are preserved:

1. Parents/Guardians will be provided access, as described in district procedures, to district approved textbooks and other curricular materials and tests used in the district upon request.
 - a. A parental request to review specific approved textbooks and other district or building approved curricular materials (written, visual, and audio) should be made to the principal of the building where the textbooks and curriculum materials are used.
 - b. Parents may check out textbooks and may review curricular materials such as video and audio recordings within a time frame determined by the building principal to prevent disruption of the instructional process.
 - c. A parental request to review specific standardized and criterion-referenced tests used in the district should be made in writing to the building principal. Copies of the most recent tests used in the district will be available for parent review. Parents wishing to review statewide assessments will be provided with sample questions and a copy of a practice test, but will not be provided with copies of the actual assessment due to testing security. In the case of other secure tests such as the ACT, parents must contact the publisher to obtain copies of the test.
2. Parents/Guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to attend and observe courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities.
 - a. Parents/guardians are invited to make appointments with the building principal to visit classes, assemblies and other instructional activities. The principal shall give permission after determining that parental/guardian observation would not disrupt the activity. Observations that last more than 60 minutes or occur on consecutive days are typically disruptive and will not be permitted absent unusual circumstances, in the sole discretion of the building principal.

- ~~b. Parents/guardians may contact the building principal to request permission to attend counseling sessions in which their child is involved.~~
- ~~3. Parents/guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to ask that their children be excused from school experiences that parents find objectionable.~~
 - ~~a. Building principals may excuse a student from any single school experience at the parent's written request.~~
 - ~~b. When appropriate, alternative experiences will be provided for the student by the school.~~
- ~~4. Parents/guardians will be informed through the student handbook and district policies of the manner that the district will provide access to records of students.~~
- ~~5. Parents/guardians will be informed of the standardized and criterion-referenced district testing program. Parents may request additional information from the building principal.~~
- ~~6. Parents/guardians will be informed of the circumstances under which they may opt out of state and federal assessments.~~
 - ~~a. In accordance with federal law, at the beginning of the school year, the District shall provide notice of the right to request a copy of this policy to parents/guardians of students attending schools receiving Title I funds. The District will provide a copy of this policy to a requesting parent in a timely manner.~~
 - ~~b. State Assessments~~

~~State and federal law simultaneously require students to take state assessments, with few exceptions, but also permit parents or guardians to request to opt their students out of these assessments. Approval of opt out requests is contrary to the mandatory testing laws, so the District cannot "approve" the request. Parents who do not present their child for testing will result in the child receiving the lowest score possible on the assessment.~~

c. ~~National Assessment of Educational Progress~~

~~As a condition of receiving federal funds, the District participates in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). To help ensure that the District has a representative sample of students taking the NAEP, which will allow the District to assess the quality and effectiveness of its programming on a national level, the District strongly encourages all eligible students to participate. However, student participation in NAEP is voluntary.~~

~~The District shall provide parents/guardians of eligible students with reasonable notice prior to the exam being administered. Parents/guardians wishing to opt their students out of the NAEP assessment must notify the district in writing at least three days prior to the exam date to ensure that the District can coordinate supervision and alternative activities for students who have opted out.~~

7. ~~Parents/guardians will be notified of their right to remove their children from surveys prior to district participation in surveys.~~

a. ~~The principal must approve all surveys intended to gather information from students before they are administered to students.~~

b. ~~Students' participation in surveys is voluntary. Parents/guardians may restrict their child from participating in any survey.~~

For purposes of this policy, "parent" includes a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker (a person designated or ordered by a court to make educational decisions on behalf of a student).

The school district recognizes the importance of parental ~~and guardian~~ involvement in the education of their children. To the extent practicable, the school district will make a reasonable effort to make any learning materials, including original materials, available for inspection by a parent upon request.

The school district will take the following steps to ensure that the rights of parents ~~and guardians~~ to participate in the education of their children are preserved.

1. Parents/~~Guardians~~ will be provided access, ~~as described in district procedures,~~ to ~~district-approved~~ textbooks, tests, activities information; digital materials; websites or applications used for learning; training materials for teachers, administrators, and staff; procedures for the review and approval of training materials, learning materials, and activities; and other curriculum materials ("curricular materials") ~~textbooks and other curricular materials and tests used in the district upon request~~ as follows:-

a. A parental request to review specific ~~approved textbooks and other district or building approved~~ curricular materials (written, visual, ~~and~~ audio) should be made to the principal of the building where the ~~textbooks and curriculum~~ curricular materials are used.

b. ~~Parents may check out textbooks and may review curricular materials such as video and audio recordings within a time frame determined by the~~ The building principal will assess the request and determine the allowable volume and time frame of the review to prevent disruption ~~of the instructional process~~ to the efficient operations of the district.

c. The purpose of this provision is to allow reasonable access to the extent practicable. Individuals who make requests (a) for the purpose of adding staff burden; (b) at an unreasonable frequency or volume; or (c) for purposes inconsistent with the efficient operations of the district may be denied access to materials.

d. A parental request to review specific standardized and criterion- referenced tests used in the district should be made in writing to the building principal. Copies of the most recent tests used in the district will be available for parent review. Parents wishing to review statewide assessments will be provided with sample questions and a copy of a practice test, but will not be provided with copies of the actual assessment due to testing security. In the case of other secure tests such as the ACT, parents must contact the publisher to obtain copies of the test.

2. Parents/~~Guardians~~ will be permitted, within district procedures, to attend and observe courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities.

a. Parents/~~guardians~~ are invited to make appointments with the building principal to visit classes, assemblies, and other instructional activities. The principal shall give permission after determining that parental/~~guardian~~ observation would not disrupt the activity. Observations that last more than 60 minutes or occur on consecutive days are typically disruptive and will not be permitted absent unusual circumstances, in the sole discretion of the building principal.

b. Parents/~~guardians~~ may contact the building principal to request permission to attend counseling sessions in which their child is involved.

3. Parents/~~guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to ask~~ may request that their children be excused from testing (except as provided below), classroom instruction, learning materials, activities, guest speaker events, and other school experiences ("school events") that parents find objectionable.

a. Parents must submit this request in writing to the building principal for consideration.

b. Building principals may excuse a student from any ~~single~~ school ~~events~~~~experience~~ at the parent's written request if, in the principal's professional judgment, excusal from the activity would not result in diminution of the student's educational experience.

c. When the building principal determines it appropriate ~~appropriate~~, alternative experiences ~~will~~may be provided for the student by the school.

4. Parents/~~guardians~~ will be informed through the student handbook and district policies of the manner that the district will provide access to records of students.

5. Parents/~~guardians~~ will be informed of the standardized and criterion-referenced district testing program. Parents may request additional information from the building principal.

6. Parents/~~guardians~~ will be informed of the circumstances under which they may opt-out of state and federal assessments.

a. In accordance with federal law, at the beginning of the school year, the District shall provide notice of the right to request a copy of this policy to parents/~~guardians~~ of students attending schools receiving Title I funds. The District will provide a copy of this policy to a requesting parent in a timely manner.

b. State Assessments

State and federal law simultaneously require students to take state assessments, with few exceptions, but also permit parents ~~or guardians~~ to request to opt their students out of these assessments. Approval of opt out requests is contrary to the mandatory testing laws, so the District cannot “approve” the request. Parents who do not present their child for testing will result in the child receiving the lowest score possible on the assessment.

c. National Assessment of Educational Progress

As a condition of receiving federal funds, the District participates in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). To help ensure that the District has a representative sample of students taking the NAEP, which will allow the District to assess the quality and effectiveness of its programming on a national level, the District strongly encourages all eligible students to participate. However, student participation in NAEP is voluntary.

The District shall provide parents/~~guardians~~ of eligible students with reasonable notice prior to the exam being administered. Parents/~~guardians~~ wishing to opt their students out of the NAEP assessment must notify the district in writing at least **three** days prior to the exam date to ensure that the District can coordinate supervision and alternative activities for students who have opted out.

7. Parents/~~guardians~~ will be notified of their right to remove their children from surveys prior to district participation in surveys.

- a. The principal must approve all surveys intended to gather information from students before they are administered to students.
- b. Students' participation in surveys is voluntary. Parents/~~guardians~~ may restrict their child from participating in any survey.
- c. If the school administers (1) a survey requesting that students provide sexual information, mental health information, medical information, information on health-risk behaviors, religious information, information of political affiliation, or any other information that the school board deems to be sensitive in nature or (2) a non-anonymous survey requesting students provide information relating to drug, vape, alcohol, or tobacco use, the school district shall, at least fifteen days prior to the administration of the survey, notify parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers of students that are to receive such survey. The notice will be made through the school's electronic notification system or by physical mail to the address on file for the student. The notice will describe the nature and types of questions included in the survey, the purposes and age-appropriateness of the survey, how information collected by the survey will be used, who will have access to such information, the steps that will be taken to protect student privacy, and whether and how any findings or results of such survey will be disclosed.
- d. Parents have the right to: (1) request that a copy of the survey be sent through the school's electronic notification system or physical mail to the address on file for the student, (2) review the survey in person at the school, and (3) exempt their child from participating in the survey.
- e. Unless required by federal or state law or regulation, school personnel administering any survey shall not disclose personally identifiable information of a child.
- f. No survey requesting sexual information of a student shall be administered to any student in kindergarten through grade six.

g. The district will also comply with any survey requirements found in the district's policy on Protection of Pupil Rights.

8. The district will make this policy accessible by a prominently displayed link on its public website. Any amended policy will be made accessible within a reasonable time of its amendment.

Adopted on: December 21, 2016

Revised on: July 10, 2017; November 9, 2020

Reviewed on: July 13, 2020; July 12, 2021; July 11, 2022; July 10, 2023;
July 8, 2024;

5015
Protection of Pupil Rights

The Board of Education respects the rights of parents and their children, and has adopted this policy in consultation with parents to comply with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA).

1. Surveys

- a. Surveys Created by a Third Party
 - i. This section applies to every survey:
 - (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district staff member or student;
 - (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified; and
 - (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions
 - ii. Parents have the right to inspect any survey created by a third party before that survey is distributed to their student.
- b. Surveys Requesting Particular Sensitive Information
 - i. Sensitive information shall include:
 - (1) Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent(s);
 - (2) Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
 - (3) Sexual behavior or attitudes;
 - (4) Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 - (5) Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 - (6) Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers; physicians, and ministers;
 - (7) Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent(s); or
 - (8) Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program), without prior written consent of the parent or eligible student.
 - ii. No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that requests sensitive information.

- iii. If a survey requesting sensitive information is funded, in whole or in part, by a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, the school district must obtain the written consent of a student's parent(s) before the student participates in the survey.
- iv. School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey (created by any person or entity, including the district) containing any sensitive information.
- v. Parents have the right to inspect any survey which requests sensitive information before that survey is distributed to their student.
- c. **Survey Inspection Requests**
 - i. School officials shall inform parents of their right to inspect surveys requesting sensitive information before the surveys are distributed to any student.
 - ii. All survey inspection requests must be in writing to the building principal and delivered to the building principal prior to the date on which the survey is scheduled to be administered to the students.
 - iii. The principal shall respond to survey inspection requests without delay.
- d. **The district will also comply with any survey requirements found in the district's policy on Parent Involvement in Education Practices.**
- d.

2. Invasive Physical Examinations

- a. The term "invasive physical examination" means:
 - i. any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts; or
 - ii. any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body; and
 - iii. does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.
- b. Parents may refuse to allow their student to participate in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is:
 - i. required as a condition of attendance;
 - ii. administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
 - iii. not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.

- c. This policy does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:
 - i. is permitted or required by an applicable state law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification;
 - ii. is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*)
 - iii. is otherwise authorized by Board policy.

3. Collection of Personal Information from Students for Marketing

- a. The term “personal information” means individually identifiable information including:
 - i. student’s and parent(s)’ first and last name;
 - ii. home or other physical address;
 - iii. telephone number; and/or
 - iv. social security number.
- b. No school official or staff member shall administer or distribute to students a survey or other instrument for the purpose of collecting personal information for marketing or for selling that information.
- c. This policy does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for the exclusive purpose of providing educational services to students, such as the following:
 - i. post-secondary education recruitment;
 - ii. military recruitment;
 - iii. tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic or achievement information about students; and/or
 - iv. student recognition programs.

4. Inspection of Instructional Material

- a. Definition
 - i. The term “instructional materials” means instructional content that is provided to a student regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet).
 - ii. The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

- b. Parents may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child’s education curriculum.
- c. Curriculum inspection requests must be made to the building principal in writing.
- d. Building principals shall respond to inspection requests within a reasonable amount of time.

5. Notification of Rights and Procedures

- a. The superintendent shall notify parents of:
 - i. this policy and its availability upon request from the office of the district;
 - ii. how to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided for in this policy;
 - iii. the approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information is scheduled or expected to be scheduled; and
 - iv. how to request access to any survey or other material described in this policy.
- b. This notification shall be given to parents as least annually, at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

Adopted on: December 21, 2016

Revised on: July 10, 2017

Reviewed on: September 12, 2022; May 12, 2025