

## **Community Relations**

### **Administrative Procedure - Parental Involvement**

Building Principals shall advocate effective, comprehensive family involvement in education that will promote parents/guardians becoming active partners in education. Building Principals shall, at least once every semester, provide a written report to the Superintendent on parental involvement programs and efforts in their buildings. This administrative procedure identifies opportunities for parental involvement.

**The District or school provides notices to parents/guardians on the following topics (list may not be exhaustive):**

Public hearing on holding school or scheduling teachers' institutes, parent-teacher conferences, or staff development on certain holidays. 105 ILCS 5/24-2(b)(2).

Free and reduced-price food service. 7 C.F.R. §245.5; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §305.10(c).

Fee waiver. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.245.

Applications of pest control and/or lawn care products. 225 ILCS 235/10.3, 415 ILCS 65/3.

Instruction on recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse. 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2.

Parental school visitation rights. 820 ILCS 147/25.

Child's placement in English learner programs. 105 ILCS 5/14C-4.

Major school-sponsored events, including parent-teacher conferences, given to non-custodial parents. 105 ILCS 5/10 21.8.

Unexplained absence from school of a student in K-8 (within two hours). 105 ILCS 5/26 3b.

Graduation requirements, particularly when a student's eligibility for graduation may be in question. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440(e).

A student's suspension and/or expulsion. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6.

Electronic audio and/or visual recording devices if located on school buses. 720 ILCS 5/14-3(m).

Physician who prescribes District's supply of epinephrine injectors is protected from liability, with limited exceptions. 105 ILCS 5/22-30(c).

Availability of the District report card. 105 ILCS 5/10-17a(5).

District's intent to withdraw from a special education joint agreement, if applicable. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31, amended by P.A. 101-164.

See also:

6:170-AP2, Notice to Parents Required by Elementary and Secondary Education Act, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and Protection of Pupil Rights Act

7:190-E2, Student Handbook Checklist

7:340-AP1, E1, Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School Records

**State laws have created parental involvement opportunities on the following topics:**

Students Records

Parents/guardians have many rights concerning their student's school records, including the right to access the records (105 ILCS 10/5); the right to challenge the content (105 ILCS 10/7); and a non-custodial parent has the right to receive copies of school correspondence and reports (105 ILCS 5/10-21.8).

### Parent-Teacher Advisory Committees

The School Board establishes a parent-teacher advisory committee(s) on student discipline and behavior interventions for special education students. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 and 5/14-8.05(c).

### Curriculum Involvement

The District must involve the parents/guardians of a child with disabilities in their child's education and placement. 20 U.S.C. §1414 and 1415; 34 C.F.R. §300.322, 501, 503, 504, 507 and 508; 105 ILCS 5/14-1 et seq., 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§226.500, 510, 520, 530 and 610.

If a parent/guardian objects, the student is not required to take sex education classes or courses. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, 5/27-9.2, and 110/3.

If parent(s)/guardian(s) opts their child(ren) out in writing, the student is not required to take National Sex Education Standards (NSES) classes or courses. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(d), added by P.A. 102-522, and 110/3, and see also 6:60-AP1, E1, Notice to Parents/Guardians of Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Education; Requests to Examine Materials; Written Objection(s) and/or Opt-outs.

A parent/guardian has the right to examine instructional materials to be used in National Sex Education Standards (NSES) classes or courses. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(e), added by P.A. 102-522, and 110/3. See also 2:250-E2, Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records, and 6:60-AP1, E1, Notice to Parents/Guardians of Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Education; Requests to Examine Materials; Written Objection(s) and/or Opt-outs.

The District must notify parents/guardians of graduation requirements and when a student's eligibility for graduation may be in question. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440(e).

The Board may use parent/guardian volunteers as: (1) assistants under the immediate supervision of a certificated teacher (105 ILCS 5/10-22.34); (2) supervisors, chaperones, or sponsors for non-academic activities (105 ILCS 5/10 22.34a); and (3) guest lecturers or resource persons under the immediate supervision of a certificated teacher (105 ILCS 5/10-22.34b). Upon a parent/guardian's request, a student must be released for religious instruction or observance. 105 ILCS 5/26-1(5).

The District must post the school report card on its website and, upon request, send it to parents/guardians. If the District does not maintain a website, the report card must be sent to parents/guardians without request. The District must send a written notice home to parents/guardians stating: (1) that the report card is available on the website; (2) the website address; (3) that a printed copy will be sent upon request; and (4) the telephone number to call to request a printed copy. 105 ILCS 5/10-17a.

### Conferences and Hearings

The District must notify parents/guardians and consult with them and keep them involved with the education and placement of their child with disabilities. 20 U.S.C. §1414 and 1415; 34 C.F.R. §300.322, 501, 503, 504, 507 and 508; 105 ILCS 5/14-1 et seq., 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§226.500, 510, 520, 530 and 610.

If applicable, the District must notify all parents/guardians of students with disabilities residing in the District of its intent to withdraw from the special education joint agreement and hold a public hearing to review the District's plan for educating students after the withdrawal. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31, amended by P.A. 101-164.

Parents/guardians have the right to an unpaid leave from work to attend educational or behavioral conferences. 820 ILCS 147/1 et seq.

The District may use two days for parent-teacher conferences and may add more days to the teacher work year subject to collective bargaining. 105 ILCS 5/3-11.

A non-custodial parent receives notices of parent-teacher conferences. 105 ILCS 5/10-21.8.

A hearing with the parents/guardians must precede a student's expulsion. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(a).

#### Report on Parental Involvement

Parental involvement must be included in the school report card. 105 ILCS 5/10-17a.

The following Board policies provide opportunities for parental involvement:

#### School Board

2:150 Committees

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

#### Operational Services

4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

4:110 Transportation

4:130 Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

4:140 Waiver of Student Fees

4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds

4:170 Safety

#### Personnel

5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline

#### Instruction

6:60 Curriculum Content

6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities

6:140 Education of Homeless Children

6:145 Migrant Students

6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction

6:160 English Learners

6:170 Title I Programs

6:180 Extended Instructional Programs

6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program

6:280 Grading and Promotion

6:300 Graduation Requirements

6:310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering

#### Students

6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program

#### Students

7:15 Student and Family Privacy Rights

7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited

7:30 Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer

7:40 Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students

7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

7:60 Residence

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

7:90 Release During School Hours

7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students

7:165 School Uniforms

7:170 Vandalism

7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

- 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
- 7:190 Student Behavior
- 7:200 Suspension Procedures
- 7:210 Expulsion Procedures
- 7:220 Bus Conduct
- 7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities
- 7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities
- 7:250 Student Support Services
- 7:260 Exemption from Physical Education
- 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students
- 7:275 Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment
- 7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
- 7:285 Food Allergy Management Program
- 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
- 7:300 Extracurricular Athletics
- 7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
- 7:340 Student Records

#### Community Relations

- 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
- 8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs
- 8:95 Parental Involvement

School-level parental involvement programs include:

1. Keeping parents/guardians thoroughly informed about their child's school and programs.
  - Develop and distribute a comprehensive student handbook.
  - Distribute information to parents/guardians on their school visitation rights.
  - Promote open houses.
  - Promote parent/guardian-teacher conferences.
  - Provide progress reporting and report cards, and keep parents/guardians informed when their child is not adequately progressing and there is a likelihood of retention.
  - Publish newsletters.
  - Sponsor financial information nights.
2. Encouraging involvement in their child's school and education.
  - Support and encourage parents/guardians volunteer opportunities.
  - Work with the PTO to promote parents/guardians volunteer opportunities.
  - Develop and use outreach programs to community groups and organizations.
3. Establishing effective two-way communication between all parents/guardians and District personnel.
  - Monthly Building Principal coffees.
  - Work with PTO leadership to ensure parental input.
  - Train personnel to collaborate with families of diverse backgrounds, including backgrounds that might impede parental/guardian participation, e.g., illiteracy or language difficulty.
4. Seeking the advice of parents/guardians on school governance issues and methods to fulfill the District's educational mission.
  - Work with PTO leadership to ensure parental input.
  - Establish a school-community advisory committee to identify, consider, and discuss educational problems and issues.
5. Informing parents/guardians how they can assist their children's learning
  - Provide information to parents/guardians about activities they can do at home.

Provide programs on how to establish a home environment that supports learning and appropriate behavior.

Implement a homework-hotline.