

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The Clark County School District recognizes that family engagement is essential for academic achievement. When parents and families support their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievement of students are positively enhanced. Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children; consequently, families are vital and necessary partners with educational communities to prepare students for lifelong learning. Clark County schools, in collaboration with parents, teachers, students, and administrators, are encouraged to develop and promote strategies that enhance family engagement and reflect the needs of students, parents, and families.

The term "parent" refers to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for children, and includes parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, foster parents, stepparents, and others.

- I. To enhance family-school partnerships, the following essential elements are promoted and connected to the Board of School Trustees' Strategic Imperatives and the superintendent's Pledge of Achievement:
 - A. Welcoming all families: Schools are expected to create an atmosphere that encourages parents and families to visit the school their children attend and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to the school community.
 - B. Communicating effectively:
 1. Families and school staff should engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.
 2. Effective communication involves both school-initiated contact with the parent and parent-initiated contact with the school where vital information about a child's challenges and accomplishments can be shared.

C. Supporting student success:

1. Parents, families, and schools are encouraged to collaborate to support learning and the healthy development of students at home and school.
2. Parents play an integral role in school and at home in their child's learning. Schools are encouraged to provide opportunities for parents to learn effective ways to support their child's educational needs including information about how to support learning at home, promoting effective study habits, and monitoring their child's progress through student achievement data.

D. Speaking up for every child: Parents and families may advocate for children to ensure that all students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that support student achievement.

E. Sharing power:

1. Partnerships between parents, families, and schools positively impact decisions when creating school policies, practices, and programs. Schools are encouraged to actively enlist parent participation in decision-making regarding their children.

Efforts shall be made to recruit and support participation by parents representing diverse student groups.

2. The role of parents in decision-making shall be continuously evaluated and refined at District and school levels.

F. Collaborating with community: While respecting cultural practices and traditions, parents, families, and schools are encouraged to collaborate with the community to enhance opportunities for learning, community services, and civic participation.

- II. The Superintendent of the Clark County School District or designee shall be responsible for the development of procedures for the distribution, collection, and maintenance of the Educational Involvement Accord and the Nevada Code of Honor for students, as prescribed in Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 392. The Educational Involvement Accord and the Nevada Code of Honor for students must be provided to each student in all schools at the beginning of each school year or upon the student's enrollment in CCSD.
- III. The Communications Office of the Clark County School District shall be responsible for posting the Educational Involvement Accord on the Clark County School District Web site and in its annual publications, including back-to-school information.
- IV. This policy shall be implemented, reviewed, and amended consistent with the NRS Chapter 392 and applicable federal law.

Review Responsibility: Community and Government Relations

Adopted: [1140: 2/28/02]

Revised: (7/13/06; 3/26/09; 2/14/13; 11/12/15)