

**Board Policy LEBA: Parental Involvement in Education**

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 04/25/2006 | Last Revised Date: 08/23/2021 | Last Reviewed Date: 08/23/2021

**Parent/Family Involvement Program 2019-2020**

The Dade County School System believes that a strong partnership among the home, school, and community will support student success and improve academic achievement for all students. Parents are a vital part of student success. Parent roles include biological parents, custodial parents, guardians, and extended family members. The following policy statement and key principles are the basis for establishing this partnership. This parent/family involvement policy will be incorporated through parent/school compacts at all Title I Schools. Each Title I School will also develop and implement a parent involvement policy.

**Parent Involvement Policy Statement**

All Dade County School System staff is committed to providing every family within the Dade County Schools with maximum opportunities to become involved in their children's education and in the life of their schools. The Dade County School System recognizes that all families have skills and abilities to share with the schools. Both the family and the school become enriched through home/school collaboration. All staff are committed to ensuring that families in the Dade County School System have both the opportunity for and the benefit of active involvement, including but not limited to workshops, meetings, correspondence, home visits, attendance to special events, policy-making, school governance, or volunteer work in some part of the school community. Schools, families, and community must work together as knowledgeable, mutually respectable partners to support the children of the Dade County School System.

**Key Goals**

System-wide Goal

To develop a strong partnership between home and school, the Dade County School System and parents shall jointly implement this system-wide parent/family involvement policy.

**Key Guiding Principles**

Parent/Family involvement involves active participation from the parent, family, school, and community.

- Parents are important and valuable resources to schools.
- All families are capable of reaching their full potential. Schools will recognize that families will have different levels of involvement with their child's education and schools will respect families for what they can contribute to their child's education.
- The dignity of the child and his or her family, their personal circumstances, and their cultural and linguistic diversity must always be affirmed and valued.
- Parent and family involvement is a process that promotes empowerment and builds a true partnership.

**Climate and Culture**

All schools will provide a positive climate in order to enhance student achievement.

- Schools shall be welcoming and open to all parents and students.
- The school climate shall demonstrate a value for parent/family involvement and respect for family culture and language.
- Each classroom will be conducive to learning.

System-wide Goal

- Cultures, language, beliefs, and opinions of families are respected by district and school staff members.

**Effective Communication**

Effective communication is essential in improving relationships between home and school.

- Schools shall develop multiple ways to communicate frequently with parents about the welfare of their children.
- Schools shall disseminate annually their goals and experiences for the school, students, and families.
- Parents, school staffs, and the community shall work together to identify effective strategies to improve communications.

#### System-wide Goals

- Parents shall be informed on an annual basis about student progress.
- Parents shall be involved in the development of the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CLIP).
- Parents shall have access, in a format that each parent can understand, to information about parent involvement strategies and system-wide goals to better understand how to support improved student achievement.
- The Dade County Schools will respond to parent requests in a timely manner.

#### **Engagement**

Parent engagement in decision-making is vital for student and school success.

- Schools shall engage parents in decision-making regarding their children's education.
- Schools shall provide opportunities for parent participation in all areas of the school.

#### System-wide Goals

- Dade County School's parents shall have the opportunity to be involved in all planning in the implementation of system-wide initiatives to improve student achievement.
- Dade County School's parents shall have the opportunity to participate in local parent groups. (Title I Advisory Council, School Leadership Team, School Council)

#### **Linkages**

Schools shall help connect families with community resources which provide support and enrichment for education.

- School and system-wide programs, resources, and other parent involvement activities shall be coordinated to support parent involvement and improved student achievement.

#### System-wide Goals

- Parents and staff will receive information and assistance in accessing literacy services and child development programs.
- Schools shall help coordinate all parent groups and parent activities in their buildings. Parents shall be invited and encouraged to participate in all parent groups.
- Schools shall help access and coordinate community resources designed to help parents and schools become full partners in the education of their children.
- Schools shall help coordinate family literacy, preschool and child development opportunities for families.

#### **Training and Accountability**

In order to achieve continuous school improvement, training and support opportunities must be provided for parents.

- Schools shall develop opportunities for parents to learn how to participate more fully in their children's education.

- Schools shall provide to the fullest extent possible the resources to implement activities and programs which support the system-wide parent/family involvement policy.
- Schools, parents, and the community share the responsibility for the success of children in schools.

#### System-wide Goals

- Technical assistance, resources, and staff support shall be provided to schools to assist in planning and implementing an effective parent involvement and parent/school compacts at the school level.
  - Staff development opportunities focused on building effective working relationships with parents shall be available to all school personnel. Parents shall participate in training whenever possible.
  - Assistance, support and training opportunities shall be provided for parents to strengthen their skills to support their children's learning at home, in school, and in the community, and to become lifelong learners themselves.
  - Technology will be utilized in planning and implementing parent workshops.
-