

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Note: The following policy implements [AS 14.03.016](#) which requires school districts to have policies promoting the involvement of parents in the education program. For those districts receiving Title I funds, a policy on parental involvement is also mandatory. (See BP/AR 6171)

The School Board recognizes parents/guardians as key stakeholders in their children's education and that they are their children's first and most influential teachers. Parental engagement in the education of children contributes greatly to student achievement and conduct. Parents/guardians can directly affect academic success by reinforcing their children's motivation and commitment to education. The district shall include parent engagement strategies and parent's role as educator as a component of instructional planning and delivery in professional development.

In exercising their roles in the education of their students, parents/guardians have the following specific rights:

- A. The right to object to and withdraw their student from a standards-based assessment or test required by the State of Alaska.
- B. The right to object to and withdraw their student from an activity, class or program.
- C. The right to be notified at least two weeks before any activity, class, or program is provided to their student that includes content involving human reproduction or sexual matters, except this right does not extend to training provided to students on awareness and prevention of sexual abuse, sexual assault, and dating violence and abuse.
- D. The right to withdraw their student from an activity, class, program, or standards-based assessment or test required by the State of Alaska for a religious holiday, as defined by the parent/guardian.
- E. The right to review the content of an activity, class, performance standard or program.
- F. **Require written permission from a parent before the name or pronoun that does not conform to the child's biological sex used by a public school to address or refer to the parent's child in person, on school identification, or in school records is changed.**

In exercising the rights above, parents/guardians must object each time the parent/guardian wishes to withdraw their student from an activity, class, program, or standards-based assessment or test required by the State of Alaska. Categorical objections and withdrawals from all activities, classes, programs, or assessments are not permitted.

Students will not be penalized when withdrawn by parents/guardians from an activity, class, program, or standards-based assessment or test. Absences based on parent objection and withdrawal will be excused and, as appropriate,

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alternative work assigned.

Teachers and parents/guardians can better understand and meet student needs if they work together. All of our schools have a duty to communicate frequently with the home and to help parents/guardians develop skills and family management techniques which support classroom learning.

Administrators and teachers should keep parents/guardians well informed about school expectations and tell them when and how they can assist their children in support of classroom learning activities. The School Board encourages staff training in effective communication with the home. The School Board encourages parents/guardians to serve as volunteers in the schools and to attend student performances and school meetings.

The Superintendent will provide the coordination and technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent engagement to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

(cf. BP1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. BP1250 - Visits to the Schools)

(cf. BP 5124 – Communication with Parents/Guardians)

(cf. AR 6020 - Parental Involvement)

(cf. BP 6171 - Title 1 Programs)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.016 A parent's right to direct the education of the parent's child

UNITED STATES CODE

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. Sections 6301-6514, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act

MATANUSKA SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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