

COUNCIL POLICY

DISTRICT: Washington

SCHOOL: North

POLICY TYPE (CHECK ONE)

FUNCTION (BY-LAWS)

POLICY NUMBER

FUNCTION (OPERATIONAL)

20

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FUNCTION:

TITLE

Parental Involvement

POLICY STATEMENT

NWES mission statement is as follows:

Working as a team, North Washington Elementary School students, staff, and parents will strive to provide a safe and positive learning environment for all students. Since we believe that all students can learn, having high expectations will enable them to become independent, contributing members of society.

Definition of a Parent:

The legal definition of a “parent” is a parent, stepparent, or foster parent of a student or a person who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order and with whom the student resides.

For the purpose of this policy, we will use the term “parent” to encompass all diverse family situations.

We commit to:

1. Sharing clear information about each student’s progress with parents.
2. Offering practical suggestions to parents on how they can support student learning at home.
3. Making representative parents and community members full partners in our decision-making.
4. Facilitating the involvement of our parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students.
5. Seeking and supporting adult volunteers to work with and inspire our students, as well as making every effort when legally appropriate to accommodate the involvement of adults other than parents who are already involved in a student’s life.

We will honor these commitments through a school-parent compact. During an annual meeting with parents, we will review the compact with parents, ask for input and then revise, if necessary, the compact.

School-Parent Compact:

Our students' parents, families, extended families, students themselves, as well as our local community are all considered partners who share responsibilities for high student academic achievement. Following are the responsibilities for the school, the parents and the students.

School Responsibilities:

North Washington will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in an effective, supportive, and safe learning environment that enables the students to meet Kentucky's academic standards.
2. Provide information on the content standards students will learn each year.
3. Assign homework in accordance to our Homework Policy
4. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress. Specifically, we will provide formal reports every 4 ½ weeks.
5. Hold Parent-Teacher conferences during the year where this compact will be discussed as it is related to the individual student's achievement. Opportunities (where appropriate) will be provided for the student to participate actively in sharing information on his or her progress with his or her parents during the conference.
6. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. The email addresses and telephone extensions of their child's teachers will be provided to parents to promote communication. Staff will always be available to parents by appointment for face-to-face conferences.
7. Monthly school-wide newsletters will be provided for parents, as well as weekly grade-level newsletters.
8. Support an active PTO.
9. Provide parents the opportunities including but not limited to:
 - Observing their child's classroom activities when appropriate and/or scheduled.
 - Tutoring
 - Assisting with classroom activities that require more than one adult.
 - Serving on one of our decision-making committees
 - Joining our PTO and participating in its efforts to strengthen our school.
 - Volunteering along with other concerned members of our community in other areas as needed.
10. Ensure that all adult volunteers working in our school and with our students are subject to board policy and state law regarding criminal record checks, as applicable.

The Family Resource/Youth Service Center will share responsibility for student achievement by:

- Surveying families at least once/year to learn what services and

activities would most help them support their children as learners.

- Offering a well-planned, well-publicized menu of activities and programs to meet those needs.

Parent Responsibilities:

Parents are asked to:

1. Monitor and encourage attendance and arrival to school on time.
2. Become familiar with and support the school and individual classrooms' homework policies and show interest with questions about and comments on the schoolwork their child brings home.
3. Make sure homework is completed.
4. Assist their child with time management.
5. Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to their child's education.
6. Stay in close communication with teachers and the school about their child's education by promptly reading all notices and surveys from the school or the school district and responding as necessary.
7. To the extent possible, volunteer, serve on the school council or a committee, attend SBDM meetings, and comment on draft policies and plans as they are made available.

Student Responsibilities:

With support from parents, students are asked to:

1. Attend school as regularly as possible.
2. Follow school and classroom behavior expectations.
3. Bring necessary materials to school and to class.
4. Complete and turn in all assigned homework.
5. Give parents or the adult responsible for them, all notices and information received from the school.
6. Write down assignments and due dates before leaving class.

Date Adopted: 1st reading Nov. 9, 2004 2nd reading Dec. 6, 2004

UPDATED: February 2012