

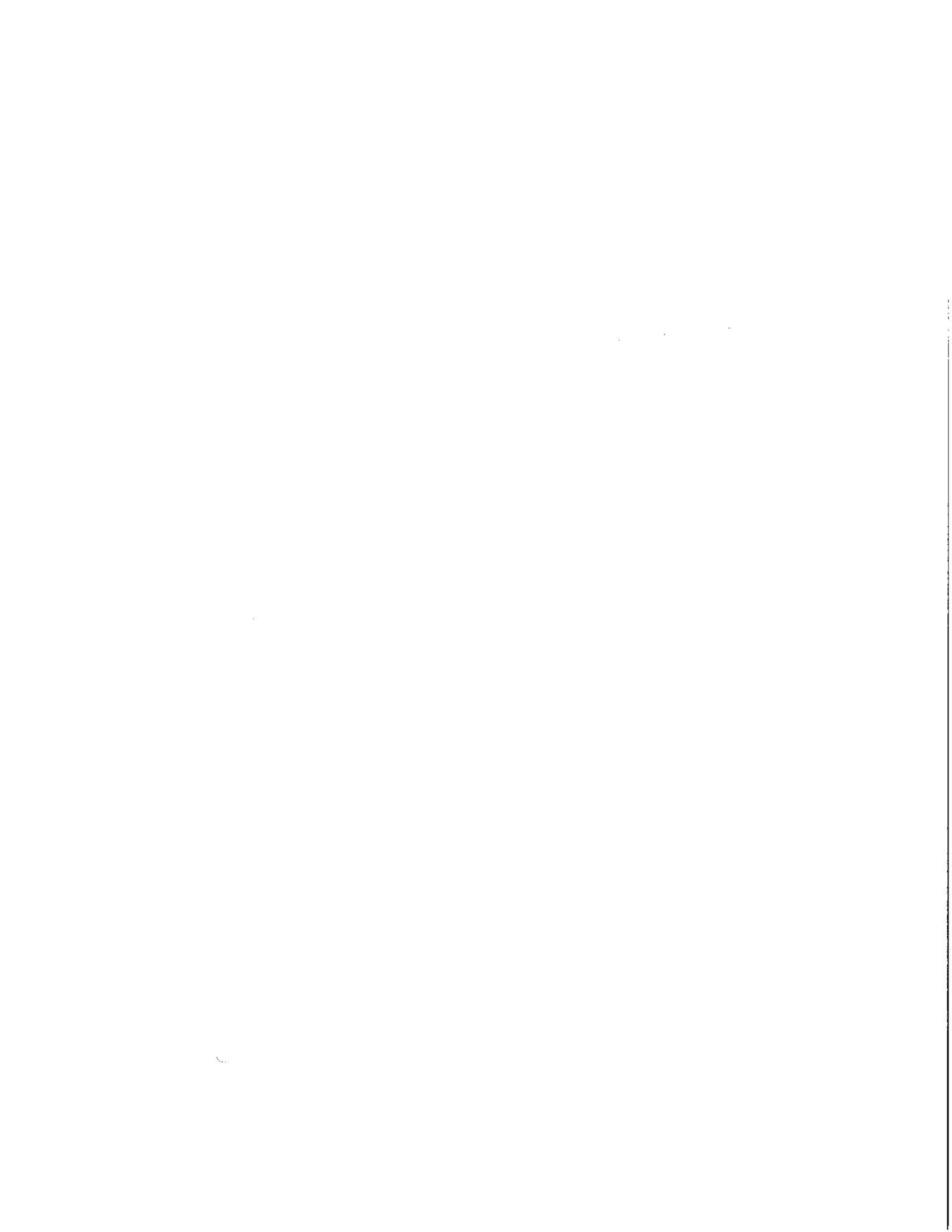
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Policy 1405
(Regulation 1405)

School/Community Relations

Parent/Family Involvement in Education

The Board of Education recognizes the positive effects of parents/families' involvement in the education of their children. The Board is committed to strong parent/family involvement in working collaboratively with district staff as knowledgeable partners in educating district students. (Regulation 1621) In order to implement the Board's commitment to parent/family involvement in education, the Superintendent will appoint a committee of parents, staff, and community representatives to serve as the district's Parent Involvement Committee. The Committee's responsibilities will include recommendations for program development, parent/staff training and program evaluation. Program evaluation reports will be prepared and submitted to the Superintendent annually by June 1.



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In order to implement the Board's commitment to parent/family involvement in students' education, the District has implemented an educational involvement plan with the following features:

1. Regular two way communication between school and parents/families. Such communication will include but not be limited to scheduled parent visits to school, electronic communication, use of translators, parent volunteers, and other programs recommended by the Parent/Family Involvement Committee.
2. Assist parents in developing positive, productive parenting skills, as well as positive productive means of interacting with District administrators and staff.
3. Involve parents in meaningful activities to enhance student learning.
4. Enhance opportunities for parents/families to visit schools in a safe and open atmosphere. Such opportunities will include, but are not limited to, identifying roles for parent volunteers, providing training for volunteers and provision of family activities at school.
5. Affirmatively involve parents in school decisions which affect their children.
6. Utilize community resources to promote and strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
7. Provide professional development opportunities for District staff to facilitate productive parent/school involvement in promoting education of District students.
8. The Plan will be reviewed annually with input from parents and staff. Meeting agenda sign-in sheets and meeting minutes will be prepared and maintained by the District.
9. Full opportunity for parent participation will be provided to all parents including, but not limited to, parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.
10. Conduct an annual evaluation of the policy to identify and resolve any barriers that would limit the involvement of parents. (Examples of barriers include, but are not limited to, economically disadvantaged, limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabled or are of any racial or minority background.)

The District's plan for meeting these goals is to:

1. Provide activities that will educate parents regarding the intellectual and developmental needs of their children at all age levels. This will include promoting cooperation between the District and other agencies or school/community groups (such as parent-teacher groups, Head Start, Parents as Teachers, etc.) to furnish learning opportunities and disseminate information regarding parenting skills and child-adolescent development.
2. Implement strategies to involve parents/families in the educational process, including:
 - Keeping parents/families informed of opportunities for involvement and encouraging participation in various programs.
 - Providing access to educational resources for parents/families to use together with their children.
 - Keeping parents/families informed of the objectives of District educational programs as well as of their child's participation and progress within these programs.
3. Enable families to participate in the education of their children through a variety of roles. For example, parents/family members should be given opportunities to provide input into District policies and volunteer time within the classrooms and school programs.
4. Provide professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent/family involvement strategies.
5. Perform regular evaluations of parent/family involvement at each school and at the district level.
6. Provide access, upon request, to any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
7. If practical, provide information in a language understandable to parents.

The Boards also recognizes the importance of parental involvement to the success of its Title I Migrant (MEP), and limited English Proficiency (LEP) programs. Pursuant to federal law, the District and parents will jointly develop and agree upon a written parental involvement policy that will be distributed to parents participating in any of these programs.

Title I Parent Involvement

The District will encourage Title I parents to be involved in supporting the education of their children in at least the following ways:

1. Parents will be involved in the joint development of the Title I program plan and in the process of reviewing the implementation of the plan and suggesting improvements.
2. The District will provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement.
3. The District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
4. The District will support the coordination and integration of Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other programs that include parent involvement by meeting with appropriate program coordinators at least once each year to plan such coordination and integration of parent involvement activities.
5. The District will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy to determine whether there has been increased participation and whether there are barriers to greater participation, particularly by parents with disabilities, who have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.
6. The District will use the evaluation findings in designing strategies for school improvement and in revising parental involvement policies and procedures at the District and building levels.
7. The District will involve parents in the activities of the schools served.

Migrant Education Program Parent Involvement

Parents of students in the MEP will be involved in and regularly consulted about the development, implementation, operation and evaluation of the Migrant Program.

Parents of MEP students will receive instruction regarding their role in improving the academic achievement of their children.

Limited English Proficiency Parent Involvement

Pursuant to federal law, parents of LEP students will be provided notification regarding their child's placement in and information about the District's LEP program.

Parents will be notified of their rights regarding program content and participation.

Policy Evaluation

The District, with parent/family involvement, will review and evaluate the content and effectiveness of this policy and each school-level policy at least annually. The District will revise this policy as necessary to improve or create practices that enhance parent/family involvement.