



Book	BOARD POLICY MANUAL
Section	Section I: Instruction
Title	Parental Involvement In Education
Code	IGBL
Status	Active
Legal	OAC 3301-35-02 OAC 3301-35-04 OAC 3301-35-06 The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq. ORC 3313.472; 3313.48
Cross References	Student Handbook IGBI - Limited English Proficiency IGBJ - Title I Programs IKAB - Student Progress Reports To Parents KA - School-Community Relations Priority Objectives KK - Visitors To The Schools KMA - Relations with Parent Organizations
Adopted	August 18, 2009
Last Revised	September 26, 2017
Last Reviewed	September 11, 2017

Principles

1. Toledo Public Schools' parents entrust their children to the District with the understanding that the District, in partnership with the parents, will provide these children with the knowledge and academic skills necessary to lead a productive life.
2. Toledo Public Schools and its parents are indispensable partners in the education process.
3. Toledo Public Schools' parents are the District's best volunteers, most loyal supporters and knowledgeable critics.
4. Toledo Public Schools' parents are community members who depend on, and taxpayers who financially support, the District's educational program.
5. Toledo Public Schools should reward parents' trust in the District's employees by providing each student with the finest education possible; cultivating a productive partnership with each parent; encouraging and welcoming parental voluntarism; and being open and responsive to parents' constructive criticism and concerns.
6. Toledo Public Schools recognizes that values can, and do, clash. The position that one parent, or group of parents, holds on a specific issue may conflict with the position of another parent or group of parents. The District must use discretion and thoughtfulness in balancing the various concerns of individual parents and parent groups.
7. Toledo Public Schools must reach out and seek input from all parents, including those who do not normally voice their opinion publicly.
8. Toledo Public Schools recognizes that different parents may want different levels of involvement with their schools. The levels on interest could range from knowing what their children are learning; what their children's homework is and how their children are progressing; actively participating in educating their children; assisting with booster groups, parent organizations or fundraising or spirit activities; or actively planning the success of its policy by whether every parent is able to participate at the level at which that parent wants to participate.
9. Toledo Public Schools recognizes that some of the District's students reside with guardians. The commitments made in this policy apply equally to parents and guardians.

Commitments

Toledo Public Schools commits to each of the following:

Dynamic Parent Organizations

Toledo Public Schools encourages and supports the dynamic functioning of individual parents and parent organizations in all school buildings.

The mission of these parent organizations is to be an integral partner by providing advice to each school on policies, practices, annual school improvement plans and other matters of importance; enlisting all parents to partner in their children's education; and supporting their school through voluntarism and other activities. The organizations will be democratically organized with leadership elected by parents. Toledo Public Schools shall provide each parent organization with the reasonable support and information needed to carry out its mission.

Toledo Public Schools acknowledges that many parent groups exist for the purpose of promoting and assisting specific programs, e.g., academics, athletics, performing arts. The District encourages and supports these varied parent groups and encourages all parent organizations within a school to work cooperatively for the benefit of students and staff. In the area of providing advice to each school regarding issues of policies, procedures and programs, each school shall form one democratically organized parent organization with leadership elected by parents. Schools will consult with these organizations in developing or issuing new, or changing, policies, procedures and improvement plans.

Each learning community (high school feeder district) shall be entitled to send three representatives to the Parent Congress. These three representatives, chosen by the parents of each learning community, shall be two from the elementary schools and one from the high school. The Parent Congress shall elect its own leadership democratically and shall have the right to organize itself as it sees fit with the mission of providing advice to the Board and the Superintendent regarding the issues of Districtwide policies, procedures and programs. A officer of Parent Congress shall have a seat at the Horse Shoe where they will be provided time to provide in put and/or comments from the Parent Congress to the Board members during regular monthly Board of Education meetings.

Effective Communication

Each Toledo Public School shall communicate effectively and in a timely manner with parents through newsletters, fliers and responsiveness to phone calls regarding school policies, daily homework assignments, teaching strategies, proficiency testing, students' and parents' rights and responsibilities and how to help students with homework.

Since not every parent can contact school personnel during school hours and since teaching time should not be interrupted, Toledo Public Schools shall strive to implement the use of technology as a means to contact parents.

Meaningful Parent/Teacher Conferences

The Toledo Public Schools shall strive to achieve the goal of providing a sufficient number of annual parent/teacher conferences for all students. All parent/teacher conferences shall be structured to be responsive to teacher and parent needs and aimed at providing appropriate information, goals and strategy to maximize each student's performance and well-being. Toledo Public Schools shall accommodate all reasonable requests for parent/teacher conferences outside the formally scheduled conferences.

Invite Direct Participation

The Toledo Public Schools shall implement a Parent Engagment Plan that effectively encourages parents to participate, in a positive and non-disruptive manner, at the District, school and classroom levels.