

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: March 8, 2024

NUMBER: 24-094

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Approval of Proposed
Revisions to BP 5124.1
Family Engagement; First
Reading

STRATEGIC PLAN/BOARD GOAL:

Track 1: Operational Improvements
Initiative: Optimize Business Practices

ABSTRACT:

Board policy revisions require Board approval.

ISSUE:

At issue is to approve the first reading of BP 5124.1 Family Engagement and open it for public comments.

BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:

The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board.

This is the first reading of BP 5124.1 Family Engagement within the Students series.

This new board policy addresses family engagement and the efforts districts should take to coordinate with parents. The policy is broad-based and may be edited based on specific district needs.

The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the first reading of BP 5124.1 Family Engagement as presented and open it for public comments;
2. Do not approve the first reading of BP 5124.1 as presented;
3. Take no final action.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of BP 5124.1 Family Engagement as presented and open it for public comments.

Note: This is not a required policy and may be updated at the discretion of the Board.

The Board recognizes families provide early and ongoing education to their children, and a strong collaboration between families and schools will ensure students continue to receive the supports they need to thrive and be prepared in school and beyond. The board also believes that partnerships with parents, guardians, and families are an important part of the educational program. Current research indicates a home to school partnership and greater involvement on the part of parents and families in the education of their children generally result in higher achievement scores, improved student behavior and reduced absenteeism. All parents, guardians, family members and foster caregivers have clear and active roles to contribute to the education of their children or foster children. All students can be successful when schools and families partner in children's education.

The District is committed to promoting family engagement as an integral part of the educational experience. Through family engagement we will strive to:

1. Establish a welcoming and inclusive environment that actively encourages family involvement in their child's education.
2. Foster effective communication and collaboration between families, schools, and the community to support student success.
3. Provide resources, training, and opportunities for families to enhance their capacity to support their child's learning and well-being.
4. Provide resources, training, and opportunities for school staff to enhance their capacity to engage in meaningful partnerships with families.
5. Recognize and respect the diverse cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives of all families in our district.

By implementing this Family Engagement Policy, the District aims to strengthen the partnership between parents, guardians, families, schools, and the community, ultimately enhancing student achievement and fostering a supportive educational environment.

In addition, building administrators/designees of schools receiving Title I funds will jointly develop with and distribute to parents of children participating in Title I programs a written parent and family involvement policy and guidelines that increases family interest in partnership and involvement. The requirements of the policy and guidelines are consistent with Federal and State law.

(cf. 6171 – Title I Programs)

Approved: