

Community Relations

Communications with the Public

Parent Involvement

Considerable experience and related evidence indicates that meaningful involvement of parents, guardians, and other caregivers in the schooling of children significantly improves the quality of education. The Board of Education believes that closer connections of parents and others responsible for the home care of the children with Andover Elementary School as knowledgeable partners can result in enhanced academic performance, improved behavior, and reduced absenteeism.

All parents, guardians, and caregivers of students enrolled in our School District, therefore, are encouraged to take an active role in the education of their children, and the School District will foster and support their active involvement.

Further, the Board of Education believes that the School's professional staff must take whatever steps are necessary to facilitate a broad variety of opportunities for parents to connect frequently with the School and with the overall system to enhance parental involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families. These steps should include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Communicating

Communication between home and School should be regular, two-way, and meaningful. Such communication may include electronic communications, parent-teacher conferences for each school year, and any other statutorily-required communications.

2. Parenting

Parenting skills should be promoted and supported.

3. Student Learning

Parents should play an integral role in assisting student learning.

4. Volunteering

Parents should be welcome in the School, and their support and assistance sought.

5. School Decision Making and Advocacy

Parent input should be sought regarding decisions that affect children and families.

6. Collaboration with Community

Community resources should be made available to strengthen schools programs, family practices and student learning.

1110.1(b)

Beginning July 1, 2021 and each school year thereafter, the two required parent-teacher conferences per school year can be fulfilled by the School's offering parents the option of attending any parent-teacher conference by the use of telephonic, video, or other conferencing platforms.

An additional parent-teacher conference, in addition to the two required conferences, shall be conducted during periods when the School provides remote learning for more than three consecutive weeks and one additional parent-teacher conference shall be provided every six months thereafter for the duration of such period of remote learning.

The School will request from the parent/guardian of each student the name and contact information of an emergency contact person who may be contacted if the student's parent/guardian cannot be reached to schedule the required parent-teacher conference when the School is providing remote learning for a period of three consecutive weeks or more.

In situations in which the teacher is unable to contact a student's parent/guardian after three attempts to schedule the required parent-teacher conference during a period of remote learning provided by the School for three consecutive weeks or more, such teacher is directed to report such inability to the Principal or other School Administrator designated by the Board of Education. Such Principal or Administrator will contact the student's emergency contact to determine the student's and family's health and safety.

The Board shall utilize the document developed by the State Department of Education that provides information concerning educational, safety, mental health, and food insecurity resources and programs available to students and their families.

The Board of Education supports professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance their understanding of effective parent involvement strategies. The Board also recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

The Superintendent of Schools will develop appropriate regulations conducive to achieving a high level of parental involvement in the educational process. The Superintendent will report annually to the Board of Education on parent involvement activities.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes
10-221(f) Boards of Education to Prescribe Rules, Policies, and
Procedures, as amended by P.A. 97-290, P.A. 10-111, and P.A. 21-46,
An Act Concerning Social Equity and the Health, Safety, and Education of
Children

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ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Andover, Connecticut