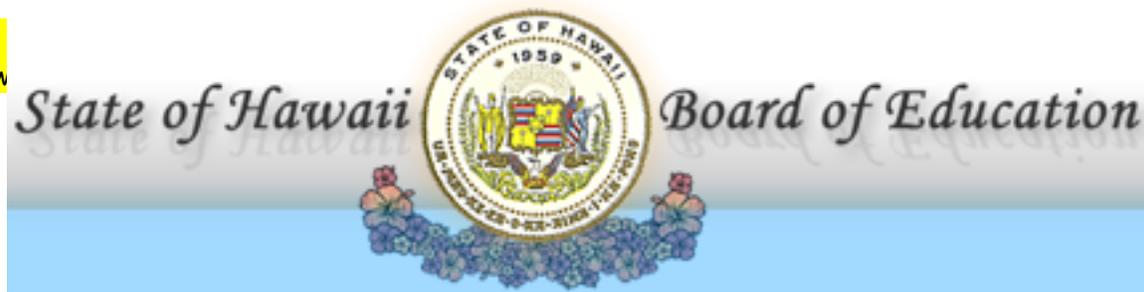


Koloa Elem.  
noted below



## **PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT**

### **POLICY (2403)**

The Board of Education recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and the family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the goal of the Department of Education (Department) to educate all students effectively, schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.

Although parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the schools' commitment in the educational success of their children. The Department and its schools, in collaboration with parents, shall establish programs and practices that enhance parent involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

To this end, the Board of Education supports the Department in the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of parent involvement programs in each school. The implementation will involve parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles, including input in decision-making processes and practices. The parent involvement program will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature. It will include, but not be limited to, the following components of successful parent involvement programs:

- Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful.

The school encourages open communication. The invitation to contact the school is extended in most communication sent home (flyers, letters, automated phone messages, school website, etc). Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled in the Fall. Parents and teachers send notes back and forth through the Student Planner/Homework Folder. Parents can also contact the teacher in writing, and by phone. PCNC facilitator provides feedback forms at parent events to solicit comments, requests, suggestions and questions. School quality surveys, School Coordinating Council meetings, PTSA meetings, ELL & Migrant Ed program meetings, grade level math nights, Open House, etc. are venues that parents can provide feedback to the school. The quarterly Progress Report has a sheet attached where parents can send comments/questions to the teacher regarding the report.

- Responsible parenting is promoted and supported.

School administration, counselors and Student Services Coordinator, who work with parents on a more intimate level, encourage responsible parenting in the context of the situation at hand (e.g. Student Support meeting, parent contact resulting from an in-school incident). Home and School Connection flyers (Ideas of what parents can do to get involve in their child's education) are sent home with monthly School Newsletters.

The Resource room also houses a Math Games Library where families can borrow games that will help their child practice their math skills.

The PCNC and School Staff hold grade level curriculum nights, and meetings geared to certain populations at our school (Migrant Ed, ELL, Kindergarten, etc) to provide information on supporting

students at home. The student's Homework Folder/Planner is sent home with information on their child's homework.

- Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning, including successful achievement of the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards.

See School's parent involvement statements (Parent-Teacher Conferences, PCNC, PTSA, visitor policy). Parents are informed of the work that is being taught and their child's achievement through the Homework Folder/Planner, through notes and phone calls, Parent-Teacher conferences, quarterly Progress Reports. Grade levels also hold annual curriculum nights to inform parents about the curriculum and introduce activities parents can do to help their child increase their learning.

- Parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought.

The PCNC facilitator surveys all parents in the Fall, asking for volunteers (e.g. classroom assistance, as speakers, to provide support for school events). The school regularly communicates information regarding school events through the school newsletter, classroom notices, marquee sign, automated phone calls, flyers, etc.

- Parents are partners in the decisions that affect children and families.

Student support process includes parents on the decision-making team. School Community Council and PTSA are venues for parents to participate in contributing to school decisions.

- Community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.

Community members support the classroom curriculum: Career Day speakers, Foster Grandparents, Community Speakers (interviewed by students). Community organizations also support our school: Aloha Peace Project, DARE, fire prevention presentation by KFD, Ronald McDonald presentation to promote reading, Frank DeLima visit promotes school and study habits.

The Department shall implement administrative guidelines that support professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies. The Department recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

Engaging parents is essential to improved student achievement and to realize the *Vision of a Public School Graduate*.

Approved: 05/03/01; Revised: 09/18/03