

Parent Involvement Policy

Buckland Elementary School staff strives to promote the following for parental involvement:

1. meaningful two-way communication between home and school;
2. promotion of responsible parenting;
3. involvement of parents and guardians in student learning;
4. promotion of volunteering;
5. involvement of parents and guardians in school decisions that affect children and families;
6. parental training;
7. community collaboration; and
8. promotion of student health awareness.

This policy applies to the parents, legal guardians and legal custodians of students who are under 18 years old and are not married.

A. Parent Communications and Conferences

Buckland Elementary School will have regular contact with parents for commendations as well as for notifications of concerns. Teachers shall schedule and conduct parent-teacher conferences as needed. The Principal shall strongly encourage and support these conferences.

The principal or designee shall strive, through oral or written communication or other means, to include the parents of students identified as at-risk in the implementation and review of academic and/or behavioral interventions for their children, in accordance with policy 3405, Students at Risk or Academic Failure.

The principal or designee shall provide the parent of each student in kindergarten, first or second grade with written notification of the student's reading progress. The notice will be provided three times a year, following each benchmark assessment and will include: (1) assessment results; (2) whether the child may not reach reading proficiency by the end of third grade; and (3) instructional support activities for use at home.

The school will work with local business leaders, including the local chambers of commerce, to encourage employers to adopt as part of their stated personnel policies time for employees who are parents or guardians to attend conferences with their child's teachers.

B. Parental Notification

Each principal or designee of a Title I school shall effectively notify parents of all parental rights and other required information regarding Title I schools and programs,

in accordance with federal law. Parents of students in Title I schools shall receive a copy of the system-wide Title I parent and family engagement policy (policy 1320/3560) and the school-wide parent involvement plan.

In addition, annually, every building principal or designee shall effectively notify parents of the following:

1. parental rights related to student records (see policy 4700, Student Records);
2. parental rights related to student surveys (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
3. the approximate dates of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: (a) required as a condition of attendance, (b) administered and scheduled in advance by the school administration, and (c) not to protect the immediate health and safety of students;
4. the schedule of pesticide use on school property and their right to request notification of nonscheduled pesticide use (see policy 9205, Pest Management);
5. student behavior policies, the Code of Student Conduct and school standards and rules (see policies in the 4300 series);
6. the permissible use of seclusion and restraint in the schools (see regulations 4302-R, Rules for Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools);
7. policy 1720/4015/7225, Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure;
8. policy 1740/4010, Student and Parent Grievance Procedure;
9. the dates of the system-wide and state-mandated tests that students will be required to take during the school day, how the results from the tests will be used and whether each test is required by the State Board of Education or by the local board;
10. grading practices that will be followed at the school and, for parents of high school students, the method of computing the grade point averages that will be used for determining class rank (see policies 3400, Evaluation of Student Process, and 3450, Class Rankings);
11. available opportunities and the enrollment process for students to take advanced courses and information explaining the value of taking advanced courses;
12. if applicable, that their child will be provided advanced learning opportunities in mathematics or will be placed in an advanced mathematics course;
13. a clear and concise explanation of the North Carolina testing and accountability system that includes all information required by federal law;
14. the grade earned by the school on the most recent annual report card issued for it by the State Board of Education, if the grade was a D or F;
15. supportive services available to students, including guidance, counseling, and health services (see policy 3610, Counseling Program);
16. information about meningococcal meningitis and influenza, including the causes, symptoms and vaccines, how the diseases are spread, and places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children;
17. how to reach school officials in emergency situations during nonschool hours;

18. information about and an application form for free and reduced price meals and/or free milk (see policy 6225, Free and Reduced Price Meal Services);
19. information about the school breakfast program;
20. information about the availability and location of free summer food service program meals for students when school is not in session;
21. for parents of children with disabilities, procedural safeguards (see also policy 1730/4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
22. education rights of homeless students (see policy 4125, Homeless Students);
23. their right to take four hours of unpaid leave from their jobs every year in order to volunteer in their child's school as stated in G.S. 95-28.3(see policy 5051, School Volunteers);
24. that the school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex disability or age (see policies 1710/4021/7230. Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying and 1730/4022/7231, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities);
25. that the school system provides equal access to its facilities, programs, and activities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups (see policy 1710/4021/7230, Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying).

C. Opportunities to Withhold Consent/Opt Out

As a part of the annual notification described above, parents will be effectively notified that they may opt out of any of the following:

1. release of student directory information about their child for school purposes or to outside organization (see policy 4700, Student Records);
2. release of their child's name, address and telephone listing to military recruiters or institutions of higher education (see policy 4700, Student Records);
3. their child's participation in curricula related to (a) prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; (b) avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy; or (c) reproductive health and safety education, as provided in policy 3540, Comprehensive Health Education Program. A copy of the materials that will be used in these curricula will be available in the school media center during the school year and at other times that the media center is available to the public. To meet any review periods required by law, materials also may be made available for review in the central office;
4. their child's participation in academic or career guidance or personal or social counseling services of a generic nature offered to groups of students (e.g., peer relations strategies offered to all sixth graders). (However, parental notification and permission are not required for: (a) short-duration academic, career, personal or social guidance and counseling and crisis intervention that is needed to maintain order, discipline or a productive learning environment; (b) student-initiated individual or group counseling targeted at a student's specific

- concerns or needs; and (c) counseling if child abuse or neglect is suspected (see policies 3610, Counseling Program, and 4240/7312, Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety);
5. their child's participation in non-Department of Education-funded surveys concerning protected topics (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students);
 6. their child's participation in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: (a) required as a condition of attendance; (b) administered and scheduled in advance by the school administration; and (c) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of students;
 7. the collection, disclosure or use of their child's personal information for marketing purposes (see policy 4720, Surveys of Students); and
 8. release of their child's free and reduced-price meal information to State Medicaid or State children's health insurance program (SCHIP).