

## **Community Relations**

### **Communication with the Public**

#### **Parent Involvement**

Considerable evidence indicates that meaningful involvement of parents, guardians, and other care-givers in the schooling of children improves the quality of education significantly. The Orange Board of Education believes that closer connections of parents and others responsible for the home care of the children with our schools can result in enhanced academic performance, improved behavior, and reduced absenteeism.

Therefore, all parents and guardians of students enrolled in our school district are encouraged to take an active role in the education of their children.

Further, the Orange Board of Education believes that the administration must take whatever steps are necessary to facilitate a broad variety of opportunities for parents to connect frequently with the schools in which their children are enrolled, and with the overall system. Each option should:

- encourage strong home-based partnerships;
- provide for consistent and effective communication between the parents and guardians and school officials;
- offer parents and guardians ways to assist and encourage their children to do their best;
- offer ways parents and guardians can support classroom learning activities; and
- provide opportunities for parents and guardians to have a voice in the planning and decision-making at both the school and district level.

In order to afford all parents and guardians opportunities for involvement in the educational process, activities and the scheduling of those activities must take into account the needs of working parents and guardians.

Some mechanisms that have been shown to be successful in fostering home-school connections are parent newsletters, open houses, parenting education workshops, parent-teacher organizations, parent forums, parent participation on district and/or building committees and task forces, and classroom volunteerism.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of Education to prescribe rules, policies, and procedures as amended by P.A. 97-290.

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