

Instruction

Parent-Teacher Communications

The Waterford Board of Education (the “Board”) believes that parents should be knowledgeable about the education that the Public Schools (the “District”) provides to enrolled students. The Board believes that parents are most knowledgeable when they have regular communication with teachers. Therefore, it is the policy of the Board to encourage parent-teacher communication. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for developing procedures in furtherance of this policy.

The Superintendent is further required to include information about parental involvement and actions taken to improve parental involvement in the strategic school profile he or she submits annually to the Board and Commissioner of Education. Such actions to improve parental involvement may include methods to engage parents in the planning and improvement of school programs and to increase support to parents working at home with their children on learning activities.

The procedures developed in furtherance of this policy may include monthly newsletters, required regular contact with all parents, drop-in hours for parents, home visits, and the use of technology.

Such procedures shall require the District to conduct two flexible parent-teacher conferences for each school year. In addition, the procedures shall require the District to:

- A. Offer parents the option of attending parent-teacher conferences by telephonic, video, or other conferencing platform,
- B. Conduct one parent-teacher conference, in addition to the two flexible parent-teacher conferences described above, during periods when the District provides remote learning for more than three consecutive weeks, and one additional parent-teacher conference every six months thereafter for the duration of such period of remote learning (for purposes of this policy, and in accordance with applicable law, “remote leaning” means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model), and
- C. Request from each student’s parent the name and contact information of an emergency contact person who may be contacted if the student’s parent cannot be reached to schedule a parent-teacher conference required during periods of District provided learning.

On or after January 1, 2022, the procedures must also require a teacher conducting a parent-teacher conference that is required in section (B) above to provide a copy of the document, to be developed by the Department of Education, to provide information concerning educational, safety, mental health, and food insecurity resources and programs available for students and their families, to the parent prior to the parent-teacher conference. If, after making three attempts, a teacher is unable to make contact with a student’s parent in order to schedule a parent-teacher conference required in section (B) above, the teacher shall report such inability to the school principal or designee. Such principal or designee shall contact any emergency contact person designated by the student’s parent to ascertain such student’s and family’s health and safety.

Policy 6050 (b)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

Public Act No. 21-46, “An Act Concerning Social Equity and the Health, Safety, and Education of Children”

June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-2, Section 390.

§ 10-220(c) Duties of Boards of Education

§ 10-221(f) Boards of Education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures

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WATERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Waterford, Connecticut