

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



How are You Involving
Families?

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

National PTA Standards were developed to aid districts/schools to establish positive family engagement to support student success.

NATIONAL PTA STANDARDS

Standard 1:

Welcoming all Families in the School
Community

Standard 2:

Communicating Effectively

Standard 3:

Supporting Student Success



NATIONAL PTA STANDARDS

Standard 4:

Speaking up for Every Child

Standard 5:

Sharing Power

Standard 6:

Collaborating with Community



STANDARD 1

WELCOMING ALL FAMILIES IN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.



STANDARD 1

◎ **Porch Visits**

- Meeting families on their turf
- Porch, sidewalk or driveway visits
- School staff making a first positive connection
- Fresh, clean start for every student
- Chance to convey the need for home-school partnerships



STANDARD 1

◎ **Orientation**

- Especially important at transitional grades (Kindergarten, elementary to middle school, middle to high school)
- Include parents in this orientation
 - Families and students learn what to expect
 - Meet and interact with staff and principal
 - Tour the building

STANDARD 1

◎ **Family Nights**

- Math/Reading/Literacy
- Can center around a theme
- Funds can be used to provided day care for younger siblings
- Funds can be used for food (reasonable)



STANDARD 1

- ◎ **Open door policy**
- ◎ **Welcome families to eat lunch with students**
- ◎ **Parents volunteer in the classroom**

****The more opportunities available for families to establish personal contact allows for increased family involvement****

STANDARD 2 COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY

Families and school staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about student learning.



STANDARD 2

- ◉ **Monthly School Newsletter**
- ◉ **Weekly Classroom Newsletter**
- ◉ **Positive Home Phone Calls**
- ◉ **Distribute KPIRC Resource Materials**
 - ◉ **Make available at school if possible – let parents know about them**

STANDARD 3

SUPPORTING STUDENTS SUCCESS

Families and school staff continuously collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.



STANDARD 3

◎ **Keep families informed about student grades**

- Easy access to student grades (i.e. Power School)
- Phone calls
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (could be student-lead)
- School-home links (weekly reports)



STANDARD 3

- ◎ **Reading Activity Packets**

- ◎ **Math/Literacy Nights**



- ◎ **Character Education**

- **Inform parents of curriculum (if applicable)**

STANDARD 4

SPEAKING UP FOR EVERY CHILD

Families are empowered to be advocates for their own children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.



STANDARD 4

◎ **Site Councils**

◎ **PTA/PTO**

◎ **Advisory Councils for Special Populations**

- **Address needs for specific populations and their families**



STANDARD 5

SHARING POWER

Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices and programs.



STANDARD 5

- ◉ **PTA/PTO**
- ◉ **Building Site Council**
- ◉ **District Parent Advisory Board**
- ◉ **Surveys (for school climate, different programs)**

STANDARD 6
COLLABORATING WITH
COMMUNITY

Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

STANDARD 6

⊙ **Establish partnerships with area businesses and community-based organizations.**

- Financial support
- Volunteers
- Rewards



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

How do districts/schools create a parent involvement policy that is reflective of that community?



HELPFUL LINKS

◎ **LCP Handbook**

- http://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/State%20and%20Federal%20Documents/lcp_handbook_dec_2007b.pdf

◎ **Family Engagement Website**

(provided by Wichita USD 259 Family Engagement Facilitators)

- <http://familyengagement.weebly.com/index.html>

◎ **Successful Practices (KPIRC)**

- <http://www.kpirc.org/uploads/SPIPKS.pdf>

KANSAS PARENT INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER

◎ **KPIRC**

- Federally funded resource center
 - www.kpirc.org
 - 1-866-711-6711 (toll free)
 - (785) 783-2975 (local)

- Federal PIRC »
<http://www.ed.gov/programs/pirc/index.html>