

Salt Lake City School District

Board Policy C - 1

Title: Parent and Community Involvement
Index: C = Community Policies

References: [Administrative Procedures for Board Policy C-1](#)
[Utah Code § 53A-1a-105-108.5](#)
[Utah Code § 53A-3-402](#)
[Section 1118\(a\) Federal Elementary and Secondary School Act \(NCLB\)](#)
[Shared Governance Guide](#)

It is the policy of the Salt Lake City School District Board of Education to promote parent, family, and community involvement as beneficial to student success. The board supports and encourages parents and guardians to be actively involved, both at the district and the local school level, working in partnership with teachers, staff, and administrators to promote and enhance student learning.

The purpose of this policy is to encourage family and community involvement in schools and in decisions impacting education and to require that district employees comply with applicable laws, regulations, and board goals.

Parent and Community Involvement

The board invites and encourages parents or guardians, volunteers, business partners, elected leaders, community members, and employees to be actively involved in promoting student learning. Parent and family involvement can occur in a variety of ways. Examples include supporting progress toward student achievement goals through activities at home, such as reading together, checking homework, and talking about new things learned; attending school events and teacher conferences; and, participating in the development and implementation of the Student Education Plan (SEP), the School-Parent Compact, and the School Improvement Plan. Serving on the School Community Council (SCC) and/or participating in the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) can also be effective ways to influence school-level support for student learning. The board encourages the development of Community Learning Centers to further enhance family and community involvement in activities and services collaboratively designed to improve and enrich the community.

The board expects each Salt Lake City school to build a school culture that welcomes family and community involvement. Educational programs should be designed to link family members to student achievement goals, engage them in activities supporting those goals, and encourage frequent, appropriate, and varied two-way communication between school and home, so that all families understand what is happening in the classroom and what they need to do to support student learning.

Shared Governance

The board supports shared governance as a process for educational decision-making and has delegated the responsibility for that process to the superintendent. Shared governance represents the district's philosophy that education is a shared responsibility of the school district, parents, and community. Under shared governance, parents, district personnel, and community members can actively participate and cooperate in the development, implementation, and review of school plans related to the education of students. School-level decision-making operates within board of education policy, ethics, budget, and law. Shared governance training is offered prior to the beginning of each school year for SCC chairs and members, and by request throughout the year.

School Community Councils and District Advisory Groups

Within each local school, the School Community Council, which operates in accordance with state law and the principles of shared governance, provides an important forum for cooperative improvement of educational programs and conditions. District advisory groups may also be established by the Board of Education to allow staff, parents, and other community members, and/or organizations to participate in supporting and improving the district's educational program. When appropriate, board leadership and the superintendent will consult with representative groups regarding the membership of such committees.

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