

ARTICLE 5. PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND COMMUNITY POLICY

I. PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

A. PURPOSE

The Education Department (Division) is committed to establishing a sound working relationship with parents/guardians, based on mutual respect for the role of parent/guardian, teacher, school administrator, and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRP-MIC).

B. POLICY

The Division will create opportunities that will support the diversity of parent/guardian involvement for the benefit of supporting student achievement and reinforcing a constructive social climate within Division Schools.

C. PROCEDURES

Parent/Guardian involvement will be sought in effective home-school partnerships in the following ways:

1. Regular Communication with Parents/Guardians

Communication between the home and school will be regular, consistent, effective and timely. All forms of communication will be shared in a format and language that parents/guardians can understand. Below are ways in which we communicate with families:

- Principal and Teacher letters
- Annual calendar
- School newsletters
- Letters sent home to Parents/Guardians
- Articles submitted to Au-Authm Action Newspaper
- Marquees
- Phone calls and Emails
- Text Message but only when “Opting-In”
- Scheduled meetings with parents/guardians
- Fliers announcing upcoming meetings and events
- Quarterly progress reports
- Monthly Parent/Guardian Meetings

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2. Visits, Tours and Observations

Visitors, including parents/guardians, Community members, and other non-Salt River Schools staff, may tour and/or observe classrooms by setting a date and timeframe with the site leader. Such visits may occur up to two times in the same school year. However, a third visit during the same school year requires a background check per Education Board policy.

D. Parent/Guardian / School Trainings

Opportunities will be scheduled throughout the school year, to help parents/guardians develop skills to use at home which support their children’s academic, social, and emotional developments. All meetings and events will be scheduled at a variety of times that will be as convenient as possible for both parties.

1. Parent/Guardian Participation

Parents/Guardians are always welcome to become a part of the school.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to participate by:

1. Meeting with school staff.
2. Participation in the decision making process on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title 1 funds, school policies, and planning for upcoming events.
3. Attending an informational meeting to review school plan, policies and procedures before the school year begins.
4. Becoming members of committees and regular attendance at Parent/Guardian Teacher Student Organization meetings.
5. Attending school functions.

E. Parent/Guardian Support

Parents/guardians can support their children in a number of ways that will help in reinforcing academic, social, and emotional development. For example:

1. Being familiar with student rights, rules, and responsibilities detailed in the Division Policies and Student/Parent Handbook(s).
2. Keeping your contact information up to date in the school office.
3. Ensuring regular and on time school attendance.
4. Ensuring homework completion.
5. Volunteering in the classroom, field trips, school events, or other areas of interest.

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*Note: please see volunteer/visitation policy for further clarification on procedures.

6. Establishing regular communication with teacher to support shared expectations of students, parent/guardian, and teacher.
7. Providing feedback either through contacting the school or completing surveys for the purpose of improving all efforts.
8. Signing the Salt River Elementary/Accelerated Learning Academy Compact, which illustrates home/school responsibilities and mutual commitment to supporting student learning.
9. Encouraging other parents/guardians and community members to be actively involved with their children and school.

F. Collaboration with Community

The Division continues to identify and integrate resources and services from the Community to strengthen school programs, family practices, student learning and development. It is our belief that we should utilize as many resources as possible to meet our vision/mission. We encourage parents/guardians and community members to assist by participating and/or assisting with referrals that contribute to school, Community, and departmental initiatives. Community partnerships may include but is not limited to:

- Health & Diabetes Program
- Salt River Fire Department
- Boys & Girls Club
- Salt River Recreation Department
- Salt River Oodham and Piipaash Language Department
- Parent (Guardian) Advisory Committees
- Arizona State University
- Public Works Department
- Salt River Police / Department of Safety
- Salt River Environmental Protection & Natural Resources Division
- Salt River Senior Center
- Salt River Youth Services
- Salt River Helping Hands Store
- Talking Stick Resort & Casino Arizona
- Scottsdale Community College

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G. Evaluation

Parents/Guardians, Community, and school can contribute to the evaluation of the effectiveness of the parent/guardian and Community involvement efforts by:

1. Providing feedback to teachers, principals, Administration, and/or Parent Involvement Coordinators.
2. Completing surveys and participating in random interviews, as needed.
3. Documenting the number of parent/guardian, Community, and school faculty participation at all events.

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