

**WHITE RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT #416
BOARD POLICY**

No. 2180

2000 – INSTRUCTION

Learning Programs and Supports

2180 - Parent, Family, and Community Partnership

It is the goal of the White River School District to "develop strong partnerships with the home." Parents and school working as partners increase student achievement and develop positive attitudes about self and school.

Parents are the first teachers of children and have primary responsibility for their education. Parents are the essential resource in the learning process of children. Teachers are professionals who manage the classroom learning environment and a variety of instructional resources. Organizational support from the school board, district administrators, and building principals enable the development of an effective partnership between the school and parents.

The partnership between home and school will be supported by:

- 1) The development of an infrastructure to continually assess, plan, and implement strategies that build the partnership.
 - A) A district-wide effort by parents, teachers, and administrators to guide overall program efforts and serve as a home-school partnership network.
 - B) Coordination of activities through the staff development system in areas of teacher inservice, assessment of teaching strengths, and communication with parents toward creation of the best possible learning experience for each child.
- 2) Self-study of parental involvement practices by teams of parents, teachers, and the administrator in each school using the following basic principles considered essential to home-school partnerships.
 - A) Every aspect of the school climate is open, helpful, and friendly.
 - B) Communications with parents (whether about school policies and programs or about their children) are frequent, clear, and two-way.
 - C) Parents are treated as collaborators in the educational process, with a strong complementary role to play in their children's school learning and behavior.
 - D) Parents are encouraged to comment on school policies and to share in decision making.
 - E) The principal and other school administrators actively express and promote the philosophy of partnership with all families through its programs including Title 1/LAP and other federal programs.

BOARD POLICY
(Continued)

No. 2180

- F) The staff encourages volunteer participation from parents and the community at large.
- G) Partnership with other units of government and public and private social, health, and welfare and fraternal agencies will be encouraged to create a community support system to strengthen families' ability to guide the academic and character development of their children.

The White River School District, its school board, and staff will provide leadership in the development of clear avenues of parental involvement. Full realization of the partnership will be achieved through the ongoing commitment and active participation by home, school, and community.

Original Adoption: January 27, 1997
Revised: August 20, 2003