

# **Scranton High School**

## **Parental Involvement Policy**

### **I. Parenting skills are promoted and supported.**

To promote student learning, the school will offer support to parents by providing resources to improve parenting techniques and skills:

1. Create a “Parent Center” by purchasing and organizing parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting. Provide parents an opportunity to borrow the materials for review through the “Parenting Center”.
2. Promote parenting websites and toll free numbers to parents.
3. Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting.

### **II. Communication between home and school is regular, two-way and meaningful.**

To encourage communication with parents, the school will:

1. Prepare family kits appropriate for students in grades 7-12 that include the following:
  - a. The school’s parental involvement program.
  - b. The recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, and school.
  - c. Ways for parents to become involved in the school and his or her child’s education.
  - d. Activities planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement.
  - e. A system to allow parent and teachers to communicate in a regular, two-way, meaningful manner with the child’s teacher and the school’s administrative staff.
  - f. The student handbook which includes the recommended role of the parents, teachers, student and school.
  - g. Volunteer opportunities for parents.
  - h. School webpage address
  - i. Anti-bullying policy
2. To encourage communication with the parents, all parents will be invited to various on-site parent involvement meetings, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Open House

- b. Two district-designated parent/teacher conferences, one in October and one in February.
3. Use a variety of communication tools seeking to facilitate two-way interaction between parents and teachers that include but are not limited to conferences, phone calls, emails, and letters.
4. Send report cards and regular progress reports to parents. Provide support services and follow-up conferences as needed.
5. Disseminate information on school policies, discipline procedures, assessment tools and school goals. Include parents in any related decision making process. Student handbooks will be distributed to all students.
6. Promote informal activities at which parents, staff, and community members can interact.
7. Provide staff development regarding effective communication techniques and the importance of regular two-way communication between the school and the family.

**III. Volunteering: Parents are welcome in the school. Their support and assistance are valuable to the success of the school.**

To welcome parents in the school, the school shall:

1. Use the community's senior citizens and community leaders as guest speakers and student tutors.
2. Engage in other activities determined by the school to welcome parents into the school.
  - a. The school will provide opportunities for parents to serve on various committees that have a direct correlation with student's learning.
  - b. The school will provide opportunities for parents to be involved in organizations established on campus. These organizations are: PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization) and Booster Club
  - c. Encourage parents to become involved by volunteering to be a guest speaker on campus relating to curriculum or careers

**IV: Parents play an integral role in assisting and promoting student learning.**

To help parents in assisting students, the school shall:

1. Schedule regular PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE NIGHTS where parents are given a report on the state of the school as well as an overview of:
  - a. What students will be learning

- b. How students will be assessed
  - c. What parents should expect for their child's education
  - d. How parents can assist with and make a difference in his or her child's education
2. Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment and engage in other activities determined to help a parent assist in the student's learning.
3. Encourage active participation in physical education, vocational, athletics, and community activities.
4. Ensure that parents are informed and involved in the district wellness practices including BMI protocol, accepted foods allowed in the school setting, physical activity opportunities, and suggested resources available encouraging healthy, active living.

**V: Recognize that parents are full partners in the decision making process that affects his or her child and family.**

To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, the school shall:

1. Publish the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define the problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
2. Sponsor seminars to inform parents how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selections, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities.
3. Engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect his or her child and family. Parents serve on the school improvement committee.

**VI: Recognize that community resources strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning.**

To take advantage of community resources, the school shall:

1. Engage in other activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
  - a. Student organizations with the assistance of parents and teachers will provide service to non-profit agencies in the community.
  - b. Develop partnerships with local businesses and service groups.