

PARENTAL RIGHTS & INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Mountain Home School District No. 193 Board of Trustees believes that all students can achieve academic success and grow to be productive citizens. Partnerships with parents will assist our schools in meeting these goals. Effective schools are a result of families and the schools working together to promote high student achievement. The board of trustees adopts this policy to promote the involvement of parents and guardians of children enrolled in the district's schools.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

A student's parent or guardian has the right to reasonable academic accommodation from their child's school. For the purposes of this policy only, "reasonable accommodation" means the school shall make its best effort to enable a parent or guardian to exercise their rights without substantial impact to staff and resources, including employee working conditions, safety and supervision on school premises for school activities, and the efficient allocation of expenditures, while balancing the parental rights of parents and guardians, the educational needs of other students, the academic and behavioral impacts to a classroom, a teacher's workload, and the assurance of the safe and efficient operations of the school.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parents and guardians are responsible for assuring their children arrive to school on time. A note signed by the parent or guardian or other means of communication is required to excuse a student's absence or tardiness.

Parents and guardians have access to their child's academic schedule, attendance, grades, homework assignments, etc., through PowerSchool Parent Portal. Contact your child's school for the password and additional information on PowerSchool Parent Portal.

Parents/Guardians and teachers have numerous means of keeping in contact and communicating with each other through PowerSchool Parent Portal, through the teacher's webpage, through email, and through telecommunication.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend their child's school Family Education Nights, Family Activity Nights, Family School Lunch BBQs, Parent-Teacher Conferences, all other activities, and to visit their child's teacher's webpages regularly.

All schools of this district strive to foster a collaborative relationship between parent(s) & guardian(s) in pursuit of student growth and achievement. Each school building of the Mountain Home School District will involve parents in regular, two-way meaningful, communication addressing student achievement and ensuring:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education.
- Parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making, and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- Parents are encouraged to attend meetings held in their child’s school to review and receive input for possible revision to the school district policies concerning curriculum, library materials, and other curriculum-based document and resources, as well as school activities.
- Parents are encouraged to volunteer, as appropriate, on the different school building and superintendent committees to receive and give input on matters concerning education.
- Parents should be involved, as appropriate, in decision-making roles including, but not limited to, volunteer opportunities, classroom newsletter, an annual parent survey, parent-school compacts, parent-teacher conferences, Parent & Teachers Together (PTT) group, and as committee members.
- Parents should be active participants, as appropriate, in school decisions, governance, and advocacy

PARENTAL INFORMATION ON COURSE OF STUDY AND LEARNING MATERIALS

Parents and guardians have the right to review and learn about the course of study for their children and review learning materials, including the source of any supplemental educational materials.

Parents and guardians may request to view all curricular and academic materials from their child’s school at any time within reason and only during school hours.

- Parents and guardians may view curricular and library materials and resources from their child’s school upon agreed conditions by the building administrator and child’s teacher(s).

Each school building of the Mountain Home School District agrees to implement the following:

- Provide parents and guardian’s information on state standards, assessments, requirements, and their child’s progress through quarterly progress notices, at parent-teacher conferences, newsletters, PowerSchool Parent Portal, and the school building website.
- Provide materials, resources, and training if needed to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement through classroom newsletters and Parent Group monthly meetings.

- Keep parents and guardians aware of the curriculum, curriculum materials and resources, and library materials and resources through a monthly or quarterly letter sent home to parents either by mail or by Blackboard.
- Build the school's and parents' capacity for parent involvement by:
 - ~ Working with educators and providing parents with information on the Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT), the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI), Curriculum Based Measures Assessments, the extended day Reading program(s), Enrichment programs, and their child's progress throughout the academic year.
 - * Information will be provided during an annual fall meeting, through quarterly progress notices, at parent-teacher conferences, in monthly calendars, emails, and on the school and district website.
 - * All notes, calendars, and emails sent out, will be in both English and Spanish when time permits.
 - ~ Providing materials, resources, and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement.
 - * Resources will be provided through the Home & School Connection Flyers and communication with teachers.
 - * Parent trainings and family education nights will be planned each year based on the school needs and may include a Family Activity Nights, Family School Lunch BBQs, and a variety of other grade level and school wide parent involvement activities.
 - * Communicate regularly with parents and guardians, including notification of opportunities for parents to participate in decision-making roles, volunteer opportunities, communicate through classroom newsletters, and annual parent surveys,

PARENTAL OBJECTIONS TO LEARNING MATERIALS OR ACTIVITIES:

It is the parents' responsibility to become familiar with the district's Curriculum Development & Materials Adoption Policy and Procedure and Library Media Materials Consideration Policy & Procedure should the parent wish to challenge the curriculum and materials. In the case of a challenge, the procedures listed in Curriculum Development & Materials Adoption Policy and Library Media Materials Consideration Policy & Procedure must be followed.

Parents who object to any learning material or activity on the basis that it harms the child or impairs the parents' firmly held beliefs, values or principles, may withdraw their child from the activity, class or program in which the material is used provided:

- The parent provides an alternative lesson, material, curriculum, etc., that is acceptable to the teacher and building administrator.
- The parent or guardian submits a written objection to the school principal and is specific in its description of the activity or learning material to which the parent or guardian objects.
- The objection includes a statement that the parent or guardian understands that the education information and concepts covered in the activity or material may not be covered in any other manner or form and that the parent or guardian understands that the student may not be able to make up the material or activity in any other way.
- The student may be unable to make up for the missed activity or material; however, no penalty will accrue to the student in grades.
- The program or activity isn't a requirement for graduation or promotion to the next grade level.

REQUIREMENTS NOT WAIVED

Withdrawing a child from an activity, class, or program required for advancement or graduation under board or state approved curricula does not waive requirements and may result in adverse consequences to the child's education, including but not limited to, ineligibility to advance to the next grade level, ineligibility to enroll in other classes, and/or denial of diplomas or other certificates.

ANNUAL NOTICE

Each school building will have an easily found link on their school building website that will contain all the information of their building's curriculum and library materials and resources for parents and guardians to review at will. Each school building will continually keep their "curriculum and library materials and resources" page and link up to date.

Each school building of the Mountain Home School District will notify parents and guardians of their rights as specified above through notification on school building websites, and by referencing a statement in the Student Handbooks.

The district's annual notification to parents and guardians of children enrolled in the district's schools of the parent's or guardian's rights as specified above can be found via all the district school buildings' websites and/or student handbooks.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Sections

33-6001 – Parental Rights

33-6002 – Annual Notice of Parental Rights

ADOPTED: June 20, 2017