

Parent/Family Involvement and Engagement Policy 4.207

The Background:

The State Board of Education's Parent/Family Involvement and Engagement Policy 4.207 provides minimum standards for the development of parent/family involvement and engagement practices. This policy was last revised in 2015 and since then the Department of Education has strengthened support of high-quality parent/family involvement and engagement through the development of state framework, professional development, communication, and program evaluation. The guidelines and recommendations in this policy are supported by the Coordinated School Health Program Policy 4.204.

Previously, this policy also included content about Community Schools. However, this first reading item proposes to remove that information because Community Schools are primarily partnerships between a local education agency (LEA) and community partners. The community partners can provide a range of services to students, families, and residents. The Department and the State Board support and encourages LEAs to form such partnerships via the work of the state Coordinated School Health (CSH) team and the specific CSH component of Student, Family, and Community Involvement. Because the Community Schools partnerships are ultimately between the LEA and community partner(s) and because there is not currently state grant funding available, there is not a need for State Board policy on this issue, though the Department will continue to support implementation.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by identifying policies for review and update based on opportunities to improve outcomes.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.