

## 6.019 Policy & Procedures Concerning Parent-Teacher Communication

Cooperative Educational Services (C.E.S.) recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the parents\*/family members of enrolled students, the nexus school district and C.E.S.' various programs/services. To support a goal of educating all students effectively, C.E.S. programs/services, the students' nexus school district and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. Therefore, it is the policy of C.E.S. to encourage ongoing communication and collaboration with families in order to establish and maintain programs and practices that enhance parent involvement and meet the specific needs of students and their families.

To ensure that this occurs, C.E.S.' Executive Director delegates to its program administrators the responsibility to facilitate a broad variety of opportunities for families to connect frequently with the program/service in which their children are enrolled. Each option should:

- Encourage strong home-school partnership(s);
- Provide for consistent and effective communication between the families and school personnel;
- Offer families ways to assist and encourage their children to do their best;
- Offer ways for families to support classroom learning activities; and
- Provide opportunities for families to have a voice in the planning and decision-making related to their child's program.

Programs should consider a variety of mechanisms to foster and encourage family involvement. These may include periodic newsletters, required regular contact with all parents, **two (2)** flexible parent-teacher conferences **each school year**, home visits, program drop-in hours for parents, awards/student recognition ceremonies, support groups, training activities and the use of technology as both a form of communication and means of providing assistance and information about how to assist their child with homework assignments or other forms of learning activities.

**Rationale:** Considerable evidence indicates that meaningful involvement of parents, family members, guardians and/or other family members assuming responsibility for the schooling of children improves the quality of education significantly. Cooperative Educational Services' believes that closer connections of parents and other family members responsible for the home care of children within our programs/services can result in enhanced academic performance, improved behavior, reduced absenteeism, and enhanced school programs. Therefore, all parents/guardians and family members of students enrolled in our programs/services are expected to take an active role in the education of their children.

**Reference:** Connecticut General Status 10-221

**Adopted:** April 3, 2003, C.E.S. Representative Council

**Revised:** October 7, 2010 C.E.S. Representative Council

\*Parent is defined as parent/legal guardian and/or other family member assuming responsibility for the student.