

VIRGINIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

TITLE: Parent Involvement	POLICY NUMBER: S046
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Policy Statement:

The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind (VSDB) encourages parents to play an integral role in assisting their child's learning and to be actively involved in their child's education at school and residential programs. Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included in decision-making to assist in the education and progress of their child. VSDB will involve parents in regular, two-way communication to support student learning.

Procedures:

- Parents will review, agree to comply with, and sign the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind Parent Service Agreement annually as a requirement for initial and continued placement.
- Parents will be permitted to visit their child at any time. Parents may arrange visitation in the classroom or residential hall with the principal and/or Director of Student Life.
- Parents will complete all forms and permission to authorize necessary emergency medical and dental treatment and provide signatures as required to provide a complete, appropriate educational program.
- Parents will notify VSDB of any changes in address, phone number, custody orders, or significant changes in parent status pertaining to their child. Current demographic information is critical for safety, security, and adequate communication.
- Parents will receive regular communication regarding student performance through interim reports, report cards, IEP progress reports, and conferences with classroom teachers. Parents will also receive individual student reports about the performance of their children on the Standards of Learning assessments in at least math and reading during an assessment year.
- VSDB shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, in a format that is accessible.
- Parents may review the Program of Studies for the curriculum descriptions and the Student Handbook/Code of Conduct for the expectations of students.
- Parents will receive communication regarding student activities through yearly school calendars and monthly residential activity calendars. Calendars will include activities that offer opportunities for parental involvement.
- Parents and guardians have the right to review the family life education program offered by their school division, including written and audio-visual educational materials used in the program. Parents and guardians also have the right to excuse their child from all or part of family life education instruction

- Parents will receive information regarding school and residential activities throughout the school year including sporting events, musical concerts, drama performances, alumni events, academic bowl events, community outings, art shows, awards ceremonies, graduation, and other events as scheduled.
- Parents will receive materials, resources and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement. These resources may include, but are not limited to, training and activities that are part of school events, as well as print and electronic resources. Classes may include opportunities to develop communication skills.
- Partnerships with local school divisions will be fostered and maintained in order to offer opportunities for parental support and involvement. Relationships with community-based organizations and businesses will be promoted.
- Parents will receive timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not properly licensed and endorsed in Virginia (Section 612(a)(14)(C) of the IDEA, as amended by ESSA).
- Parents will be able to communicate with and about their children through a variety of means. Options include, but are not limited to:
 - Video relay or phone systems
 - E-mail
 - Phone
 - Written communication

Rescission: Revised: November 2010; July 2010; Revised: June 12, 2019
 Revised: September 25, 2019

BOV Approved: 9/25/19