

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Family Engagement

The Missoula County Public Schools Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of engaging families in the education of children. The Superintendent shall undertake activities designed to:

- (1) encourage families to actively participate in the life of their children's schools;
- (2) ensure families feel welcomed, valued, and connected to one another, school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class;
- (3) encourage families and school staff to engage in regular, two-way meaningful communication about student learning;
- (4) ensure continuous collaboration between families and school staff to support student learning and healthy development both at home and at school and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively;
- (5) empower families to be advocates for their own and other children to ensure that students are treated equitably and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success;
- (6) allow families and school staff to partner in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs; and
- (7) encourage families and school staff to collaborate with members of the community to connect students, families, and staff to expand learning opportunities, community services, and civic preparation.

Cross Reference:

Legal Reference:        § 10.55.701, ARM                      Board of Trustees

Policy History:

Policy presented to: Personnel Negotiations & Policy Committee on September 27, 2013 and posted for public comment.

Adopted on November 12, 2013