

The Tennessee Department of Education convened a task force in February of 2010 to examine standards in fulfilling the requirement of developing parental involvement standards. The task force recommended six standards based on the PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. The wording in the standards were slightly changed to reflect the consensus of the task force. Changes to the wording are highlighted in blue. The State Board of Education reviewed the parental involvement standards in a first reading in April 16, 2010, and a second reading on July 30, 2010:

On July 30, 2010, the State Board of Education adopted the following Tennessee Parental Involvement Standards:

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community—Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class and school.

Standard 2: Communicating effectively—Families and school staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about student learning.

Standard 3: Supporting student success—Families and school staff continuously work together to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

Standard 4: Speaking up for every child—Families are informed and enabled to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.

Standard 5: Sharing power—Families and school staff are equal partners with equal representation in decisions that affect students and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

Standard 6: Collaborating with community—Families and school staff work together with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

Training for the parental involvement standards will be announced in the future. Compliance of these standards will be collected via Survey Monkey in the Spring of 2011 by the Tennessee Department of Education, Office of Federal Programs. Results of the 2010-2011 parental involvement standards compliance will be posted on the Tennessee Department of Education Report Card in 2012 for the 2010-2011 school year. For more information contact Liz Roper at Elizabeth.Roper@tn.gov or 615-253-0047.

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