

Area:	Family Partnerships
Subject:	FP05 - Parental Involvement in Child Development and Education
Reference:	1304.40 (e)(5)
Policy:	SCOE-C/FS provides opportunities to include parents in the development of the program's curriculum and approach to child development and education.

Procedure:

1. Staff and parents shall meet to discuss, plan, and review the educational program at the:
 - a. Center Committee Meetings
 - b. Policy Committee Meetings
 - c. Policy Council Meetings
2. Parents shall be encouraged to participate in planning for center-level activities and events by:
 - a. Discussing program activities and options at Center Committee Meetings.
 - b. Participating in the Program Self Assessment.
 - c. Completing Family Partnership Agreement information (FPA)
3. Teachers shall obtain parents suggestions for classroom and home activities based on the knowledge of the children's skills and interests.
4. Teachers shall orient parents to the program's philosophy and curriculum approach.
5. Teachers shall solicit concerns and/or educational needs of parents and provide appropriate training/workshops.
 - a. Teachers shall provide monthly educational training days for parents that inform families of appropriate child development practices.
 - b. Training will be provided to staff and parents on the philosophy of multicultural education trends and design of activities appropriate to children.
6. Center parent meetings shall provide an opportunity for parents to participate by providing recommendations for:
 - a. Classroom activities
 - b. Field trips
 - c. Parent education activities
 - d. Program schedule of calendar events
 - e. Revisions to the Early Childhood Development and Health Services Plan
7. Information regarding children's growth and development will be provided through parent orientation, handouts, newsletters, and group meetings, etc.
8. Resource materials, including articles on parenting and family life will be distributed to parents.
9. Center staff shall provide notification of parent education classes or resources.
10. A periodic bilingual newsletter with developmentally appropriate ideas for at-home activities will be published for families.
11. Representatives from local literacy agencies will be invited to make presentations at parent meetings to encourage parents to participate in available literacy programs and services.
12. Center staff will distribute information about library, story hours, literacy centers, and adult education to parents.

- a. Organize Literacy Library/ESL Literacy kits.
 - b. Publish and distribute Head Start Literacy Van schedule.
 - c. Assess and advise parents on developing literacy goals and encourage them in achieving their goals.
13. Center staff will conduct home visits at least twice each program year.
14. Center staff must conduct staff-parent conferences.
- a. Record and file documentation of staff-parent conferences in child's folder.

Supervised by: Coordinator of Early Childhood Programs, Child Development Supervisor

Performed by: Family Service Workers

Forms needed: Family Partnership Agreement (FPA), Family Contact Log, Center Parent Meeting Calendar, Agenda and Minutes, Family Home Visit Plan

Frequency: Ongoing - throughout the program year