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**PARENT/FAMILY/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

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**I. PURPOSE**

To establish a uniform, county-wide policy which recognizes that parents, family members, and the community play an important role in the education of students. When students enter Carroll County Public Schools, the responsibility for their education is shared among the school, parents, and the community. Fostering positive home, school, and community partnerships is essential to successfully carrying out this shared responsibility.

The parents and communities of Carroll County represent a source of support, as well as an important resource for the Carroll County Public School System. Schools, parents, and communities must work as knowledgeable partners in the education of all students.

**II. DEFINITION**

None

**III. POLICY STATEMENT**

The Board of Education endorses meaningful partnerships among schools, parents, family members, and communities and expects parent participation on school system and school committees in order to promote the social, emotional, and academic growth of students. The following standards form the framework for this policy.

1. Communication - open and ongoing, two-way, meaningful communication is promoted among home, school and the community.
2. Parenting - parenting skills are fostered and supported.
3. Student Learning - parents, families, and the community play an integral role in assisting student learning.
4. Volunteering - parents, families, and community members are welcomed in the school system. Their support and assistance are sought, encouraged, and recognized.
5. Decision Making and Advocacy - parents, families, and community members are active partners in the decisions at the school and system level.
6. Collaborating with Community - community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning.

**IV. EXCEPTIONS**

There are no exceptions to this policy.

**V. GUIDELINES**

None

VI. REPORTS

Data relative to volunteers in the schools will be collected, compiled, and reported annually in the CCPS Master Plan. Upon requests from the Maryland State Board of Education, data relative to CCPS volunteers will be forwarded.

VII. EXPIRATION/REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed at the end of three years, or sooner.

VIII. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The superintendent/designee has the responsibility for enforcing this policy by communicating it to all relevant parties and by providing necessary instructions and/or administrative regulations (if appropriate), to all staff members.

IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

May 14, 2008