

<b>NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CLASSROOM OBSERVATION POLICY</b>	<b>Approved: 4/29/2020</b>

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the classroom observation policy is to accommodate, where appropriate, classroom observation of students while protecting all students' rights to confidentiality and privacy and to ensure minimal disruptions to student learning<sup>1</sup>.

The North Providence Public School District establishes this policy to facilitate and regulate parents' observations of their child or child's program, conducted by themselves, their consultant, or their evaluator.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#),

### Section 8101 Definitions

**(39) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT-** The term 'parental involvement' means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring —

- (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  - (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
  - (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116.
- Section 1116 Parent and Family Engagement

### **(d) SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

[...] each school served under this part shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact. [...] Such compact shall —

- (2) address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum —
  - (A) parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement;
  - (B) frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and
  - (C) reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities [boldface added]; and
  - (D) ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

## **II. POLICY**

Parents of children in the School District or educational consultants hired by a parent may observe a student or students in the classroom provided they follow the requirements and procedures established by the School District. The District shall consider the safety, security and privacy concerns for all students<sup>2</sup> and staff, as well as disruptions to the educational process when granting such observation.

The Superintendent is directed to develop protocols regulating and facilitating the process for classroom observations and further the Superintendent or his/her designee will oversee the implementation of such requirements consistent, with this policy.

**First Reading: 1/22/2020**

**Second Reading: 2/26/2020**

**Third Read: 4/29/2020**

---

<sup>2</sup> As guaranteed by the IDEA, Section 504, FERPA, the PPRA and Rhode Island law.