

28           **§→ WHEREAS, parents are a child's first teachers and are responsible for the**  
 28a **education of their children;**

28b           **WHEREAS, Utah's constitutionally established and taxpayer funded public education**  
 28c **system is created to support parents in their responsibility to educate their children;**

28d   **←§**    WHEREAS, research shows that when parents play an active role, their children  
 29 achieve greater success as learners, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial  
 30 background, or the parents' own level of education;

31           WHEREAS, parental engagement through an association or organization **§→ [is essential]**  
 31a **can provide opportunities for collaboration, cooperation, and improvement of student**  
 31b **outcomes ←§** in

32 the schools;

33           WHEREAS, one study concluded that family participation in education is twice as  
 34 predictive of a students' academic success as a family's socioeconomic status, and that some of  
 35 the more intensive programs had effects that were 10 times greater than other factors;

36           WHEREAS, in a state where funds for education are limited and classes are large,  
 37 parental engagement serves to assist teachers and school personnel with resources and  
 38 expertise in the arts, science, and technology, and reduces the need for more paid personnel;

39           WHEREAS, Utah Code Section 53A-13-109 states that "the primary responsibility for  
 40 the education of children within the state resides with their parents or guardians and that the  
 41 role of state and local governments is to support and assist parents in fulfilling that  
 42 responsibility";

43           WHEREAS, Utah Code Section 53A-1a-105 states that "The Legislature recognizes the  
 44 importance of parental participation in the educational process in order for students to achieve  
 45 and maintain high levels of performance"; and

46           WHEREAS, the Utah Legislature recognizes that parental engagement is key to  
 47 academic achievement and the importance of parent/community/school partnerships:

48           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
 49 Governor concurring therein, recognizes the parents and family members of students in Utah  
 50 schools for their efforts to foster the education of their children by nurturing them, monitoring  
 51 their progress, and volunteering time in their schools.

52           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor express support  
 53 for policies of the Utah State Office of Education, and its constituent districts, unit schools, and  
 54 charter schools, that provide parents with opportunities to be actively involved in their  
 55 children's education.