



Educational Involvement Accord Guidance

In this guidance document you will find responses by the Nevada Department of Education (Department) to frequently asked questions about the Educational Involvement Accord (Accord). Additionally, you will find recommendations in regard to the Accord's required accompanying information and materials.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Accord

The following will address questions districts and schools may have relative to Accord.

What is the Accord?

The Accord is an agreement that outlines how parents/legal guardians, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/legal guardians will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Is the Accord a part of state law?

Yes. [Senate Bill 214](#) of the 2005 Nevada Legislative Session established the requirement for the Department to prescribe a form for an educational involvement accord.

Where is the Accord located in Nevada Revised Statute (NRS)?

The Accord is located [NRS 392.4575](#).

What is the role of the Nevada Department of Education as it relates to the Accord?

Pursuant to [Senate Bill 214](#) and [NRS 392.4575](#), the Department shall prescribe a form for an educational involvement accord to be used by all public schools in Nevada. The Accord must comply with the federal [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\) of 2015](#) and the [parental involvement and family engagement policy adopted by the Nevada State Board of Education](#).

Who is required to use the Accord?

All public schools in Nevada are required to use the Accord [[NRS 392.4575\(1\)](#)].

Can I change or alter the Accord prescribed by the Department?

The board of trustees of each school district may authorize the use of an expanded form that contains additions to the Accord if the basic information contained in the expanded form complies with the Accord prescribed by the Department [[NRS 392.4575\(5\)](#)].

Are Title I schools required to do the Accord and the school-parent compact required by ESSA?

No. Title I schools may use the Accord as their school-parent compact since the Accord is required by NRS to comply with the ESSA. However, Title I schools are still required to seek parent input on the Accord and take into account any parent feedback. If a Title I school determines that an expanded version of the Accord is necessary due to parent feedback and input, then that school may use an expanded form of the Accord if authorized by that school's district board of trustees.

When must the Accord be distributed?

The Accord must be distributed at the beginning of each school year or upon a student's enrollment in the class, as applicable. Additionally, the board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy providing for the development and distribution of the Accord [[NRS 392.4575\(4\)](#)].

What should the Accord development and distribution policy adopted by the board of trustees of each school district include?

The policy adopted by a board of trustees must require each classroom teacher to distribute the Accord to the parent or legal guardian of each student in a teacher's class. The policy also must require each classroom teacher to provide the parent or legal guardian with a reasonable opportunity to sign the Accord [[NRS 392.4575\(4\)](#)].

What about middle and high school classroom teachers? Will a student with multiple teachers and their parent or legal guardian have to sign multiple Accords?

No. The intent of the Accord is to make parents, students, and school staff aware of their roles in the educational process. Students with multiple teachers, such as is the case in middle and high school, typically have a home room or first period teacher. It is acceptable for the home room/first period teacher to be identified as the staff member who is responsible for the Accord's distribution.

How often does the Accord get reviewed?

The Department and the board of trustees of each school district shall, at least once a year, review and amend their respective educational involvement accords [[NRS 392.4575\(6\)](#)].

Frequently Asked Questions About the Accord's Accompanying Materials

The following will address questions districts and schools may have relative to the required information and materials that must accompany the Accord.

What information and materials are required to accompany the Accord?

Pursuant to [NRS 392.4575\(3\)](#), the Accord must be accompanied by, without limitation:

- (a) Information describing how the parent or legal guardian may contact the pupil's teacher and the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled;
- (b) The curriculum of the course or standards for the grade in which the pupil is enrolled, as applicable, including, without limitation, a calendar that indicates the dates of major examinations and the due dates of significant projects, if those dates are known by the teacher at the time that the information is distributed;
- (c) The homework and grading policies of the pupil's teacher or school;
- (d) Directions for finding resource materials for the course or grade in which the pupil is enrolled, as applicable;
- (e) Suggestions for parents and legal guardians to assist pupils in their schoolwork at home;
- (f) The dates of scheduled conferences between teachers or administrators and the parents or legal guardians of the pupil;
- (g) The manner in which reports of the pupil's progress will be delivered to the parent or legal guardian and how a parent or legal guardian may request a report of progress;
- (h) The classroom rules and policies;
- (i) The dress code of the school, if any;
- (j) The availability of assistance to parents who have limited proficiency in the English language;

- (k) Information describing the availability of free and reduced-price meals, including, without limitation, information regarding school breakfast, school lunch and summer meal programs;
- (l) Opportunities for parents and legal guardians to become involved in the education of their children and to volunteer for the school or class; and
- (m) The code of honor relating to cheating prescribed pursuant to [NRS 392.461](#).

Can the Accord’s accompanying information and materials be distributed separately?

The Accord must be accompanied by the information and materials listed in [NRS 392.4575\(3\)](#) [[NRS 392.4575\(3\)](#)]. Typically, districts and schools already have a defined way of distributing much of the required accompanying information and materials. This information is either included in student handbooks, newsletters, syllabi, etc. It is important that parents receive the required information at the beginning of the school year, or upon the student’s enrollment, along with the Accord so that they have the benefit of knowing about their child’s education, school, and teachers from the onset; in addition to knowledge about other helpful resources and materials.

Suggestions for the Accord’s Accompanying Materials

The following are suggestions for districts and schools for the Accord’s accompanying information and materials.

For all of the Accord’s accompanying materials, in addition to providing it to parents at the beginning of the year, it is suggested that school staff go over the accompanying materials with parents. This can be done at parent-teacher conferences and back-to-school nights.

Additionally, the accompanying materials should be in a language parents can understand.

(a) Information describing how the parent or legal guardian may contact the pupil’s teacher and the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled;

Include the individual teacher or principal’s preferred method of communication (e.g. by phone, email, and/or Infinite Campus) in addition the basic contact information.

(b) The curriculum of the course or standards for the grade in which the pupil is enrolled, as applicable, including, without limitation, a calendar that indicates the dates of major examinations and the due dates of significant projects, if those dates are known by the teacher at the time that the information is distributed;

Provide parents updated calendars throughout the year. When it comes to parent/family events, it is important to let parents and families know with plenty of time when they are and to refrain from changing those dates as much as possible.

(c) The homework and grading policies of the pupil’s teacher or school;

(d) Directions for finding resource materials for the course or grade in which the pupil is enrolled, as applicable;

- Provide a resource directory or list of relevant websites to parents.
- Provide a list/schedule of after school programs or tutoring opportunities that parents can select for their child

- Ask parents for their input in the resources they need or want for their child.
- Reserve a space for parents at the school where they can access this information (e.g. parent resource room) as well.

(e) Suggestions for parents and legal guardians to assist pupils in their schoolwork at home;

Besides providing a list of strategies parents can use to help their child at home, build the capacity of parents to use and implement these strategies by having school staff demonstrate and practice these strategies with them. Some districts also have parent workshops (e.g. Parent University, University of Family Learning) available. Provide a calendar of when/where parent workshops will be held throughout the year.

(f) The dates of scheduled conferences between teachers or administrators and the parents or legal guardians of the pupil;

Send out notices and reminders to parents when the dates of these conferences approach.

(g) The manner in which reports of the pupil's progress will be delivered to the parent or legal guardian and how a parent or legal guardian may request a report of progress;

Most, if not all, districts utilize Infinite Campus. Have school staff go over with parents on how to sign up, log on, and navigate Infinite Campus/Parent Portal. It is also recommended that a computer at the school be made available to parents who wish to check their child's progress.

(h) The classroom rules and policies;

(i) The dress code of the school, if any;

(j) The availability of assistance to parents who have limited proficiency in the English language;

Provide information to the parent in their preferred language and have translators available for parent/family events and meetings.

(k) Information describing the availability of free and reduced-price meals, including, without limitation, information regarding school breakfast, school lunch and summer meal programs;

(l) Opportunities for parents and legal guardians to become involved in the education of their children and to volunteer for the school or class; and

Provide parents monthly updates, such as in newsletters, of volunteer opportunities and how to become involved. This can also be done at parent-teacher conferences and parent/family events.

(m) The code of honor relating to cheating prescribed pursuant to [NRS 392.461](#).