

# Parent Petition Overview

## What is a petition?

A petition is a formal document signed by many people requesting a specific outcome.

## What is a Parent Petition under Nevada State Law?

The Parent Petition is a way for parents and guardians with children at certain schools that are not meeting Nevada State Standards<sup>1</sup> to advocate for a change to improve their child's school. Each petition must have a specific "School Plan." Parents and guardians who are in favor of the *School Plan* can sign an official signature page to show their support for the plan.

## Who can sign a parent petition?

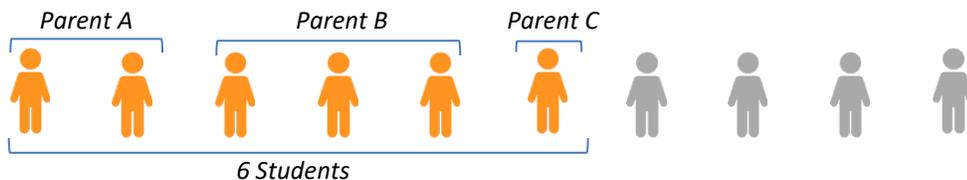
**One (1) parent or legal guardian** may sign a petition for **each child** at the school. [R108-15, Section 10]

## How many signatures are needed for a successful petition?

To be successful, the petition must have a signature for greater than half of the students who attend the school. One (1) parent or guardian can sign once for each of his/her children that attend the school. [R108-15, Section. 10(1), 10(2)(c)]

## Here is an example:

If a school had ten (10) students, the parents of at least six (6) of the students would need to sign the petition for it to be successful. (half of 10 would be 5, so more than half would be at least 6)



- Parent A has two (2) children at the school and signed the petition two (2) times, once for each child.
- Parent B has three (3) children at the school and signed the petition three (3) times, once for each child.
- Parent C only has one (1) child at the school, so they can only sign one (1) time.
- Only one (1) parent or guardian may sign for each child, so if Parent C has already signed, than no other person may sign for that child.

## What information do I have to provide in order to sign the petition?

The signer must provide their name, address and signature. In addition, the signer must provide the date, their child's name and their child's school. The signer may, but is not required to include the child's grade and their phone number or email address.

## What are the rules regarding petitioning?

- The petition must be completed on the **Petition Form** [R108-15, Section 10(2)(a)]
- People collecting signatures on school property must **obey school rules** [R108-15, Section 10(4)(a)]
- To prevent disruption to student learning, petitions **may not** be circulated on school property during school hours [R108-15, Section 10(4)(a)]
- The school, school district, or employees of the school or school district **may not** use public funds or resources to campaign for or against a petition [R108-15, Section 10(6)]
- **School employees** must not campaign during school district contract hours.
- **No gifts, rewards or incentives** can be given to encourage parents/guardians to sign or not sign [R108-15, Section 10(4)(b)]
- **No threats or false statements** can be made to encourage parents/guardians to sign or not sign [R108-15, Section 10(4)(b)]
- **Parents/guardians may not be threatened based on their immigration status** [R108-15, Section 10(4)(b)]
- **Students may not be threatened or harassed** based on their parent or guardian's decision to sign or not sign a petition [R108-15, Section 10(4)(b)]
- **School employees cannot be threatened or harassed** based on their decision to support or not support a petition [R108-15, Section 10(4)(b)]

<sup>1</sup> The Annual list of Rising Stars Schools will indicate if your child's school is eligible for Parent Petition  
*Parent Petition Overview (8/30/2018)*