

Parent Involvement Policy 2018-2019

Elm Street Elementary School

Revised: August 8, 2018

Distributed: August 23, 2018 at Open House
August 27, 2018 for non-attendees

A. School, Parent/Family Involvement Policy

Elm Street agrees to implement a policy that encourages and recognizes the importance of parental involvement. The following is developed jointly with, agreed upon, and distributed to parents of all students.

- The school will involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I program. Included in this planning is the School Parent Involvement Policy. A school is designated Title I, when the school population has a high percentage of students who are economically disadvantaged.
- The school will provide the following to the parents of all students:
 - a) Timely information about Title I programs
 - b) School performance profiles
 - c) Each child's individual student assessment results, including an interpretation of these results
 - d) A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels that students are expected to meet
 - e) Opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions, share experiences with other parents, and participate when appropriate in decisions regarding the education of their children
 - f) Timely response to suggestions made by parents who have been at meetings such as those described in (e) above
 - g) Materials and training in the home language, whenever possible, to help parents work with their children to improve performance

B. Annual Title I Parent Meeting

Elm Street Elementary will convene an annual Title I meeting on August 23, 2018 to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program modeled after the state's requirements. A meeting agenda will guide the evening's sharing of information. In addition to the meeting, parents will be informed of the additional opportunities to participate in school activities through the Parent Involvement Policy and Title I School-Parent Compact for Achievement. All parents were invited to attend the annual review and revision meeting which was held on August 8, 2018. The meeting discussed the objectives and strategies of the Title I Plan, the revisions to the School Parent Student Compacts, and the Parental Involvement Policy.

Beyond the Title I Annual Meeting, every effort will be made to maintain a flexible number of meetings and events at different times. The Elm Street Parent Teacher Organization will be holding meetings during school hours, together with evening update sessions, in order to meet the needs of all parents and staff. Whenever possible and necessary, Title I funding may provide transportation, child care, and/or home visits for school events and school improvement goals. These services must be directly related to parental involvement.

- The school will provide parents the opportunity to provide feedback and comments about the Title I Program, School-Parent Student Compacts, and the Parental Involvement Policy through www.cowetaschools.org/eses school website, or by contacting the principal directly at christi.hildebrand@cowetaschools.org, or by calling Elm Street Elementary at (770) 254-2865.
- The school will give parents the following information about the Title I program at Elm Street Elementary through the following means:
 - a) Title I Plan located in the Parent Resource Center at Elm Street Elementary
 - b) Parent/Family Involvement Policy
 - c) School-Parent compacts for each grade level presented at Open House
 - d) Annual Family Engagement and Student Activity Calendar provided to each student during the first month of school and posted on the Elm Street Elementary website
 - e) Additional information and a summary of the main opportunities for parent involvement can be found on the school calendar
 - f) Parents unable to attend Open House will be given a packet of important information with all required documents

Opportunities for Family Involvement:

Back to School Bash: Before school starts each year, parents and students are invited to meet the teachers, tour the campus, and enjoy an ice cream social.

Annual Title I Meeting: This meeting will be held on August 23, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. for all grade levels. Parents will learn about Title I requirements funding opportunities for family involvement.

Open House: This meeting will be held on August 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. for all grade levels. There will be a second session at 6:45 p.m. to allow parents with more than one student to attend an additional session. These meetings enable parents to be informed early in the school year of student expectations, opportunities to see the student work, and visit classrooms.

Grade Level Performances: Each grade level will participate in a performance for families and community members to share their talents and skills through performing arts. These nights are dedicated to improving student interaction, promoting the arts, and building a positive school culture and community. Please refer to the 2018-2019 Parent Engagement and Student Activity Calendar for specific dates and times for each grade level.

Grandparents' Week: A full week dedicated to grandparents by inviting them to visit with students to enjoy a special lunchtime together.

Daily Lunches: Parents, grandparents, and other authorized visitors listed on the student's green emergency cards are welcome to join their student for lunch on campus any day. Mentors are also welcome to join the students for lunch to spend time together.

Spectacular Stories Day: September 28, 2018, students and teachers dress as their favorite book characters. Many fun reading activities are planned by each teacher to encourage the love of literacy and language. Cross grade level buddy reading takes place in the afternoon.

Fall Festival: October 19, 2018, the Parent Teacher Organization coordinates this fun fall evening of carnival games or activities. Teachers, parents, and high school students volunteer their time to work together in booths for families to enjoy a variety of games and activities.

Newnan High School Homecoming: Elm Street Elementary participates in the events of Newnan High School. The school will enter a parade float, and all the families are invited to walk in the Homecoming parade which takes place on the Thursday afternoon of the Homecoming Week. Students and staff also take part in spirit day activities throughout the week.

Family Christmas Caroling: All families are invited to go Christmas caroling throughout the Elm Street Elementary neighborhood and community on December 14, 2018.

Experience Science Day: Join us as we experience Science together January 25, 2019.

Mardi Gras Math Night: Plans are in the making for a Math night with a Mardi Gras theme on March 5, 2019.

Family Enrichment Mondays: Two Mondays, an informal parent enrichment session will be held to discuss pertinent issues for families. Meetings will be held at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (evening by reservation only)

Dates to hold classes include:

November 12, 2018

January 14, 2019

Poetry Café: March 28, 2019, families will enjoy a night of sharing great poetry.

School Musical: April 30- May 2, 2019 come join us to hear our talented students perform in the school musical.

Chuckwagon Day: May 17, 2019, all families are invited to attend a school-wide cookout celebration during lunch with their children.

C. School-Parent Compacts for Achievement

As a component the Parental Involvement Policy, Elm Street Elementary will develop School-Parent Compacts for achievement for each grade level as an agreement between the school, parents, and students. Elm Street Elementary faculty, staff, parents, and students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) will agree that the compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students share the responsibility of improved academic achievement. The School-Parent Compact for achievement will be reviewed and revised annually and distributed to parents at the beginning of the school year. Teachers, parents, and students will sign the agreement to indicate their commitment to educational success. Parental support of school programs will be evidenced by attendance at events, support for programs, and through increased student achievement as measured by grade promotion, grades, and standardized test scores. A copy of the School-Parent Compacts for achievement will be kept on file in the school office as directed by Title I requirements. A blank copy of each shall be posted in the lobby of the school and on the Elm Street website.

The compact will:

- a) Describe the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction to support an effective learning environment that enables students to meet challenging state standards
- b) Describe ways in which parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- c) Describe ways in which students will be responsible for supporting their own learning
- d) Address the importance of ongoing communication, and good relationship between teachers and parents throughout the school year.
- e) Show evidence of how the School Parent Student Compact correlates directly to the School Improvement Plan goals

An effective compact:

- Links to school improvement goals
- Focuses on student learning
- Describes how teachers will help students learn through high-quality instruction
- Shares strategies parents can use at home

- Explains how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress
- Describes opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in the classroom and school

Communication with parents will occur in a variety of ways:

- Personal phone calls
- Automated calling system
- Individual classroom newsletters
- School wide newsletters
- Teacher parent conferences
- SST (Student Support Team) meetings
- IEP (Individualized Education Plan) meetings
- Parent Teacher Organization
- School Board minutes and participation
- Counselor sessions and Family Enrichment workshops
- Email opportunities
- Parent Buzz Sheets
- Survey results from parents, students, and teachers
- Remind
- Twitter



D. Adoption

This policy of parental involvement has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with the parents of children participating in Title I, Part A, as evidenced by the submission to the PTO Board, Parents Involvement Committee, and the Elm Street Elementary School Leadership Team.

This policy was adopted by Elm Street on August 23, 2018 and is ready to be revised to meet the changing needs and concerns of parents as presented in Title I annual meeting to be held August 23, 2018. This version will be in force during the period of 2018-2019, or until another revision or update. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A students on or before October 1, 2018. It will be made available to the local community on or before October 1, 2018 through the school website and posting in the main lobby and the main office. The notification to parents of this policy will be an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent possible, the school will provide a copy of this policy to the parents in a language the parents can understand.

Dr. Christi Hildebrand, Principal

Date

(To be reviewed and revised again on or before August 23, 2019)