

**Title I Parental Involvement Policy**  
**NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**Warner Robins, GA**  
**FY – 2011 - 2012**

*Northside Elementary School shall abide by and support all rules and regulations pertaining to Title I: Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 1007-110 and the Parent Involvement Policy of Houston County Board of Education.*

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

- Northside Elementary School encourages parental involvement of children being served in activities funded by Title I. The faculty and staff at Northside Elementary recognize that parental involvement is an essential component for increasing student achievement and ensuring continued success. Educational research shows that parental involvement is correlated to student success.

To facilitate parental involvement, Northside Elementary has established objectives and implemented strategies to increase parent and community involvement within our school.

**GOALS OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

- The goal of the parent involvement program is to increase student achievement.

**MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS**

Parents are invited to a parent meeting at the beginning of the school year. The purpose of this meeting will be to

- Inform parents about guidelines, purposes, goals, and expectations of the Title I program.
- Inform parents about the importance of their role in the success of their child's academic achievement.
- Inform parents of school, grade level and individual teacher policies and procedures.
- Present an overview of the grade level curriculum.

Workshops are scheduled at flexible and convenient times are available for parents to facilitate student learning

Surveys as distributed to parents to identify meeting times and days that are most convenient for parent participation and topics that most interest parents.

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR**

- The Parent Involvement Coordinator (PIC) will work along with representatives from the Title I Office to provide support to school personnel and parents in increasing parental involvement and student achievement. Northside Elementary will work in collaboration with other parenting programs that exist in the school district to provide information and resources to assist parents in ways to help their children improve academic achievement.

**TRANSITION**

- Coordination with other programs: Headstart and Pre Kindergarten:

Local school personnel will coordinate with Head Start Coordinators and Public Pre Kindergartens to facilitate a smooth transition for both parents and students from those programs to local elementary school through means specified in the School Improvement Plan.

- Elementary to Middle School Transition:

Elementary school personnel will coordinate with middle school personnel to facilitate a smooth transition for parents and students from elementary to middle school through means specified in the School Improvement Plan.

**PARENT ACTIVITIES**

- The goal of Northside Elementary Parent Involvement Program is to increase student achievement through parental involvement. Local school personnel work together to plan and implement various activities that would encourage parental involvement, including at home activities. All parents are invited to serve and to be an active participant in their child's learning through parent-teacher organizations, advisory councils, volunteering, and parent-school partnerships. Consistent and on-going parent input concerning parent involvement activities is solicited in the form of interest surveys.

**DOCUMENTATION OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES**

- Evaluation of the effectiveness of parent involvement outlined in the School Improvement Plan is documented through maintaining papers of parent meetings, which include invitations, agenda, sign in sheets, minutes, and evaluation forms for parent involvement activities and meetings. Parent advisory council documentation is retained.

**PARENT RESOURCE CENTER**

- Assistance is provided to parents on ways to monitor and support student progress at home. Materials are available for parent check out in Title I Parent Resource Center to assist with strategies to work with children at home. Materials include books, videos, access to computers, instructional packets, and games and toys with educational objectives. The school personnel update the materials each school year. Training sessions are provided on a regular basis to assist parents with ways to help their children improve academic achievement. Parents are referred to community resource persons and agencies as needed. A variety of daytime and evening programs are provided to meet the identified needs of parents.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

- Northside Elementary School fosters two-way communication with other community agencies to integrate services and provide optimal opportunities for students to benefit from all available services.

## **SURVEYS**

- Parents are surveyed annually to determine that parent involvement needs are being met effectively and appropriately through the implementation of the Parent Involvement Policy. In addition, the Parent Advisory Council meets annually to review and approve the effectiveness of the Parent Involvement Policy. Areas evaluated include identifying barriers to parent participation such as low income, disabilities, limited literacy, LEP, homeless, or other racial or ethnic considerations. The findings of this evaluation are used to develop strategies for school improvement or to revise the LEA policy.

## **TITLE I COMPACT**

- Each school has a school-parent compact on file in the district Title I office. The school-parent compact provides opportunities for positive and meaningful communication between parents and school personnel. The compact is learning oriented and consists of a plan of action that details responsibilities by the school, the student, and the parent for the purpose of achieving high student achievement and to build a partnership between parents, students, and teachers who impact the level of achievement. A copy is sent home with each child at the beginning of each school year.

## **HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION**

- Northside Elementary will communicate regularly with parents through a variety of media and methods. These include but are not limited to: parent meetings, parent/teacher conferences, parent workshops, Parent Family Center, newsletters, and information sent home via students and recommended websites that provide ideas for working with children at home.
- Parents are provided with timely information about school programs, a description and explanation of the curriculum and the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress as well as the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. This information is provided as an annual Open House meeting, during parent meetings, during parent-teacher conferences throughout the school year, and in school handbooks. School personnel are available to schedule meetings with parents whenever a need is identified to make joint educational decisions which are in the best interest of the students.
- Frequent reports will be made to parents through progress reports and report cards to inform parents of student progress. Parents are encouraged to attend conferences and to monitor their child's progress. Reports of annual state testing are sent to parents to inform them of their child's results on the state assessment. Parents are given reasonable access to school staff and are encouraged to visit the school, volunteer, participate in the school activities.

## **NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001**

- Parents are notified about various components of the NCLB Act of 2001. Options are communicated to parents through letters, conferences, school and system web pages, student handbooks, and at parent meetings in which the new guidelines for schools in need of improvement are outlined.

## **CONTENT AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

- The Georgia Performance Standards and the Quality Core Curriculum are implemented as determined by the Georgia State Department of Education. Through written communication parents are informed of the standards and the expected performance level required for students to meet expectations on the Criterion Reference Competency Test. District and school results will be reported on the local newspaper. Parents will be invited to a conference with school personnel to discuss their child's assessment. School AYP reports are available at each school. Information about standards and student performance may also be found at the Houston County School System, Georgia Department of Education, and the US Department of Education websites.

## **PARENT MONITORING**

- Parents can monitor and support their child's learning by keeping abreast of school procedures, reviewing progress reports and report cards, being aware of homework/class work requirements, and working with schools to schedule conferences to help children improve academically in school.

## **SHARED DECISION MAKING**

- Parents are encouraged to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children by serving on the school and system-wide parent Advisory Councils, attending meetings, and participating in parent-teacher conferences. Parents are encouraged to respond to parent interest surveys and to submit workshop evaluation forms after each parent meeting.

## **STATE AND LOCAL ASSESSMENTS**

- Parents are provided information concerning the results of the annual assessments, including school performance profiles, individual student assessment results, interpretation of those results, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet.

## **VALUE OF PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS**

- School personnel receive professional development through workshops, and publications to enable them to maximize the contributions of parents as partners in education. Each school has a parent involvement policy that coordinates all parent programs. The school includes means for parents to participate in their child's education. The parent policy is, to the extent practicable, disseminated to parents in a language that parents can understand.