

Perry Primary School
Title I Parent Involvement Policy
2008 – 2009

Perry Primary 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 Public Schools as follows:

Perry Primary school will convene an annual Open House/Orientation meeting which will be held at the beginning of each school year for all parents. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend. The purpose of the meeting will be to:

- Inform parents about guidelines, purpose, goals, and expectations of the Title I Program.
- Inform parents of their important role in their child's success
- Inform parents of school, grade level and individual teacher policies and procedures.
- Present an introduction to the grade level curriculum.

Our faculty will foster a parent- friendly environment and provide parents with strategies to use at home that support academic achievement.

Perry Primary will survey its parent population at the beginning of the school year and at the end of the school year to evaluate the effectiveness of our parent involvement program. As a part of this evaluation, the Parent Involvement Committee, consisting of parents, community members, school administration, and staff shall meet to review and/or revise the Local School Parent Involvement Policy, the Local School Involvement Action Plan, and the Local School Parent-Teacher-Student Compact. A printed agenda shall be presented and each committee member shall acknowledge his/her presence by signing an attendance log. The Title I office will provide technical assistance and/or advisement in the development of the local school parent involvement policy and action plan, student/teacher/parent compacts, and parent involvement workshops opportunities. All suggestions for improvement and identified barriers to parent involvement shall be noted.

Our school shall communicate regularly with parents through a variety of media/methods, including but not limited to: parent meetings, parent-teacher conferences, parent workshops, parent/family resource room, newsletters, information sent home with students, and recommended websites that provide ideas for working with children at home. Translations will be provided when needed.

The Administrators, the Parent Involvement Coordinator, Certified Teachers, along with other faculty and support personnel, will involve parents in their children's education by providing them with information and materials, in addition to meetings and trainings that will be held to address academic and affective areas for students, such as local, state, and national academic content standards and student assessment.

The school curriculum will be shared at Open House and also through the Houston County Public School System's Georgia Department of Education website. This information will be made available to each parent at Open House and Orientation meetings.

Assessments used to measure student's progress and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet will be explained at Open House and reviewed during parent/teacher conferences. Information that will be shared will include the following:

How teachers use classroom performance, portfolios, standardized and teacher constructed test, language checklist, self-assessment, student/parent questionnaires, and professional judgment in determining student progress toward meeting both local and state student performance standards.

The process for identifying effectively students who may be at risk for reading failure or who are having difficulty with math by using screening, diagnostic, and classroom-based instructional assessments. These assessments will identify students' specific areas of strengths and weaknesses in phonemic awareness, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, computation, and math computation problem-solving.

An explanation of the Georgia Criterion Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) is provided. Parents are made aware that this test assesses a student's knowledge of the local and state curriculum. Further, the CRCT scores in Mathematics and English/Language Arts are combined and used in the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determination for elementary grades.

Meetings will be held where parents will be provided the opportunity to make suggestions and participate in discussions relating to the education of their children. Additional opportunities for parents to be involved shall include volunteering in the school and in the classroom, also serving as part of governing teams such as: PTO, Parent Involvement Action Teams, and School Council. These school based organizations of parents, educators, and citizens, collaborate to set goals for improving student achievement and evaluate the progress in reaching these goals. In addition, the parents are encouraged to attend grade level meeting's regarding their child's progress.

The school will handle responses to parent questions, concerns, and suggestions in a timely manner through telephone calls, notes and conferences. Translators will be provided as needed.

All data, comments, and/or suggestions, including unsatisfactory comments, regarding the Title I school plan and parent involvement policy shall be collected and sent to the principal and will be considered in the revision of the Policy/Action Plan for our school. An end of the year parent survey will be conducted to determine needed improvement, the results and all unsatisfactory comments will be attached to the school plan and submitted to the principal. The school will provide timely responses to suggestions.

The school/student/parent compact will be jointly developed with parents for all children. The compact is used to guide discussions about academic goals between the teachers, students and parents and how they, along with the entire school staff, will share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement. The compact is the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact will be updated yearly, distributed to all parents at registration, and sent home with students. The compacts will be signed and returned to the teacher. All compacts will be housed in front office. Translations will be available as needed.

The school will provide assistance in understanding the National Educational Goals, Georgia's content standards, the school curriculum, and student performance standards on state and local assessments. The assessments are used to measure student progress and proficiency levels the students are expected to meet. The school will use the Quality-Plus Teaching Strategies based on scientific research and proven to accelerate student achievement. These strategies will be implemented school wide to ensure student success. Our school is committed to reach high standards for student achievement and to give every child a quality education. Our school staff will strive to improve student achievement through identifying needs, setting short term attainable goals, and providing immediate feedback with appropriate interventions to achieve the standards. Student progress will be monitored and shared with parents through parent conferences, regular progress reports, phone calls, and e-mails.

Parents will be encouraged to become vital partners in their children's education. The compact will include ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their child's learning such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and participating in decisions relating to the education of their children. It will address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through parent-teacher conferences. Follow up will be given at conference time.

Through parent meetings, the school will provide information to parents to further their understanding of local and state's academic content standards and student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, and how parents can monitor their children's progress and work with the school to improve the achievement of their children. Opportunities for parents to share questions/concerns will be provided at these parent meeting and on an individual basis through their child's teacher and school administrators. Parents will be encouraged to monitor their child's progress and work in partnership with our staff to improve the achievement of their children through volunteering in the classrooms, contacting the school with questions or comments, attending meetings and workshops, and working with their child at home.

Parents receive a copy of their child's assessment results whenever a national, state, or district level assessment is given. An explanation guide is also provided so that parents can understand the meaning of the results. Every effort is made to provide parents with conference time in which to share the results and answer questions. Students with specific needs are involved in the Student Support Team (SST). At the SST meeting, parents,

administrators, and teachers meet to develop a plan that supports the student's academic achievement.

Training opportunities will be offered by the PIC, Classroom Teachers, and the Counselor for parents to learn about the importance of student attendance, homework assistance, school communication, child development, literacy, and technology.

School personnel will receive information provided by the PIC to stress the value of parental contributions and involvement. The PTO and the school will work jointly to reach all parents and to encourage building ties between home and school.

Our school will coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with programs such as Special Education, ESOL, public preschool programs, Transition from Pre-K to Kindergarten, and Primary School to Elementary School. Our school has a Parent Resource Center staffed by a PIC and a RC who is available to provide information and support to parents. The PIC and RC will also provide resources to ensure that parents are prepared to work with their children at home.

Open communication between our staff and parents related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be addressed through parent/teacher conferences, parent/student handbooks, weekly folders, and newsletters, Title I literature, progress reports, phone calls, school web site, and e-mail. This communication will be provided in a language that parents can understand.

Our school shall ensure that information related to school reports, parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent home to encourage the participation of all parents. Translations will be available as needed.

Our parents and local community join our school staff in developing and assessing school improvement strategies. Parents are encouraged to participate in decision making. We work collaboratively as a team to address issues, make plans, and implement those plans. Compacts will be revisited throughout the year. Frequent reports will be sent home about children's progress. Our faculty will communicate about the children's progress through email, notes, and phone calls. Our faculty and staff embrace these ideals and will provide access to classroom activities and encourage frequent communication. Parents are also encouraged to participate in our School Council and PTO in addition to special events.

Perry Primary School
Parent Involvement Action Plan
2008-2009

- **Parent Resource Center:** Open daily 8:30a.m. – 2:00p.m.- PIC and/or RC available to provide resources and activities to parents for use with students at home.
- **Open House:** August 21, 6:00p.m. – All Title I information is provided to parents along with grade level curriculum, guidelines, purpose, and goals.
- **Volunteer Orientation:** August and September - Information and opportunities provided to parents about volunteering in our school. Such as: Classroom volunteers, PTO, field trips, school council, action team, and other areas that are available for parents to be a part of our school.
- **Book in a Bag:** – September – May – Parents are given permission forms to sign and return. Books will be send home weekly for parents and their children to read together.
- **Classroom newsletters:** – August – May – A copy of the Home School Connection will be sent home to each family. Also, several teachers send weekly newsletters home to keep parents informed of their weekly activities.
- **Math Night:** – Held in May, 2009. Parents spend time with their child doing hands on math activities.
- **Science Night:** – Held in December, 2008. Parents spend time with their children exploring with hands on material, and discovering many science facts.
- **Hot Dog “We’re Reading”** – Parents are invited to come into the classroom and observe how the teacher is teaching their child to read.
- **CRCT Night:** - March 17, Parents will learn strategies on how they can help their children at home.
- **PACT:** - September – May – Parent and Child Time. Parents are invited into the classroom to see how their children are learning.
- **Red Ribbon Week:** - October – a week of teaching the importance of not using drugs.
- **Dental Health:** February –We have dental hygienist come from Middle Georgia Technical College to teach our students about proper dental health care.
- **Fire Safety:** October – Perry Fire Department brings their smokehouse and teaches students what to do in case of a fire.
- **Art Show** – Parents are invited to view and have the option to purchase their child’s art work.