

Ward Central Elementary Parental Involvement Plan

2015-2016

District: Cabot Public School District

School Improvement Status: Grade B

Grade Levels: PreK-4

Parent Involvement Coordinator: Jennifer Lea Griffin

Are you Title I Schoolwide? Yes

Percent of free and reduced lunch: 72%

Parent Involvement Committee Members:

- Dawn Verkler – Principal
- Andy Sullivan – Assistant Principal
- Stacy Ostrowski – Parent, PTO President
- Angela Hughes – Parent
- Brandy Guyot – Parent
- Jennifer Lea Griffin- Parental Involvement Coordinator

1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.
 - The school will hold Math and Literacy Nights during which teachers will instruct parents on how to help their children at home, through the implementation of games and modeling of current Math and Literacy lessons.(All Teachers)
 - Each teacher will send home a folder containing student papers and work samples daily and/or weekly. Parents will be asked to go through folders with their child.
 - The school will maintain a website on the district's homepage. The website will be composed of information regarding the technology lab, calendar of events, Monday News, PTO, and faculty and staff contact information.(L. Massey; on going)

2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences and activities regularly throughout this year and the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase

parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts. (Must include the 2 state mandated parent/teacher conferences each year.)

- Parent Meeting - October 5, 2015 (6:30 - 6:45 PM)
 - Title I Meeting - October 5, 2015 (6:00-6:15 PM)
 - Grandparents' Day - October 2 & 3, 2015 (11:00 AM - 12:50 PM)
 - Veteran's Day Reception and Parade - November 11, 2015
 - Just Do The Right Thing Breakfast with Parents - monthly
 - PTO Meetings - monthly (9:00 AM or 6:00 PM, rotating times)
 - Gifted and Talented Open House - September 30, 2015 (6-7 PM)
 - Parent Teacher Conferences - October 19,20 and 22 (2:45-6:00 PM), March 18 and 20 (3:30-7:00 PM)
 - Literacy Night - September 15, 2015
 - Math and Science Night - Spring 2016
 - Family Game Night - Fall 2015
3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities (must include state mandated parent training)?
- The school will hand out information for the district-wide initiative for encouraging parental involvement. The Cabot School District's Health and Wellness Coordinator facilitated an orientation meeting to educate and train parents on what volunteerism looks like in the Cabot Public Schools System. The program is called Hallway Heroes, and invites parents to greet students as they arrive at school, help with lunch and/or recess duties, monitor hallways, entryways, parking lots, and playgrounds; assist office personnel and teachers with daily support tasks; eating lunch or playing on the playground with a student, etc.
 - The school will provide opportunities for parents and community members to support the instructional program through such programs as Morning Meetings with guest speakers, Guest Readers, and Hallway Heroes.(D.Verkler,A. Sullivan)
 - Provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation; role play and demonstration by trained volunteer, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education. (W. Malham)
4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

- School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. (D. Verkler, A. Sullivan; August 2015)
5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the school-wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program?
- The school will involve parents on school improvement planning committees. (W. Malham; J. Griffin October 5, 2015 & Spring 2016)
 - To take advantage of community resources, the school shall consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement. (A. Sullivan; on-going)
 - The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association or organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school. (D. Verkler; monthly)
6. How will your school provide resources for parents?
- A Parent Resource Center will be located in the school, in which parents can check out Math and Literacy materials to help their children, academically, at home. Materials will also be available on the following topics: Parenting and Co-Parenting, Addiction, Adult Education, Children with Disabilities, Managing Stress, Hygiene, etc. (W. Malham, J. Griffin; open during school hours (Monday – Friday 7:30-4:00))
 - The school will distribute informational packets each year that include a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement activities planned for the current school year, and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate (notes, phone calls, e-mail, etc.). (J.Griffin)
 - To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall do the following: purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review. (J. Griffin; on-going)
7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

- The school will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A Program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents, and school staff. The Title I committee, made up of teachers, parents, and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth. (D. Verkler, A. Sullivan, W. Malham, J. Griffin; May 2016)

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan, and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

- The school will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at the end of the school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they feel will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically. (J. Griffin, May 2016)
- The school will use the results of the parent interest survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the following year. (J. Griffin; May 2015)

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

- The school conducted the Annual Title I Meeting for all parents on October 5, 2015. (D. Verkler, A. Sullivan)