

# **Jefferson Elementary Parent Involvement Policy 2009-2010**

The goal of Jefferson Elementary is to provide a high quality education to meet the challenging standard of serving ALL children. The purpose of the Jefferson Elementary Title 1 Program is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency in meeting challenging State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

We value the role parents play as their children's first teacher and the influences of their continued support to promote higher student academic achievement and school performance.

Jefferson Elementary envisions quality education for all by maintaining a positive, nurturing, and self-motivating environment. Jefferson promotes life-long learning to prepare its community to become contributing members of our ever-changing society.

The following outline is in compliance with the legal requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (PL 107-110, Section 1118). The document represents joint development with parents, teachers, and principal. The policy will be available to all parents at Jefferson Elementary.

## **1. Parents will have an opportunity to assist in developing the building plan, review the program and make suggestions. To accomplish this:**

- A Parent Advisory Group will be selected, annually, to assist in the development of the School Improvement Plan and Goals.
- All parents will be invited to an annual meeting offered at a variety of times before October 15 to maximize the opportunity for parents to participate to inform the following: Title 1 Objectives; instructional methods; school wide objectives and instructional methods; the student selection process; test scores and how schools are identified for school improvement; and that they, the parents, have the right to request to know the qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals in their.

**2. Support will be provided to parents and teachers as they plan and implement effective parent involvement by:**

- Providing parent and parent/child workshops and activities based on the assessed needs and interests. The parent group with the Parent Coordinator/Facilitator's leadership will plan and conduct 4 workshops per year.
- Developing a Parent/Teacher/Student Compact in cooperation with both parents and teachers and promoting its use for the betterment of the students.
- Providing current, reputable parent literature/materials in a format that is understandable to parents.

**3. In order to promote the school's and parents' capacity to form a strong partnership and work toward higher student academic achievement, will:**

- Assist parents in such areas as the State's academic content standards, State student academic achievement standards, State and local assessments, the requirements of this part and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the academic achievement of their children as well as provide information on how parents can participate in decisions regarding the education of their children.
- Encourage parents to visit their children's classroom during the school day.
- Inform parents of school activities through newsletters, phone calls, web sites, e-mail and other media.
- Encourage staff to have regular two-way meaningful communication with parents through parent teacher conferences, progress reports, classroom newsletters, school web site and providing opportunities for observation of classroom activities.

- Develop partnerships with community based organizations and business sponsored programs, workshops and training, and having representation at school functions.

- Make information available, in a format and, to the extent possible, in the language parents can understand.

- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Such training would include literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

**4. Parents will participate in the annual evaluation of the content of the school parental involvement policy and practice. They will also consider:**

- Increasing parent involvement

- Ways to overcome barriers which may limit participation for those who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited literacy, have limited English proficiency or are of any racial/ethnic minority background.

The annual evaluation will be used to revise and/or design parent policy practices to better parental involvement and parental input.