PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN

Siersma Elementary School

2012-2013

Vision Statement

The vision of Siersma Elementary School is to provide all students with the tools and resources to become productive, responsible, life-long learners and citizens. We advocate positive and meaningful educational experiences for all students, which includes promoting excellence in academics, the arts, athletics and life skills. This can be accomplished through a partnership with families and the community working together to provide the necessary resources and support to produce a positive educational environment essential for excellence in achievement and learning.

Mission Statement

The Siersma School Community is dedicated to providing positive learning experiences that meet the academic and emotional needs of each child. We are committed to providing a caring, clean and safe environment. We strive to empower children to become respectful, responsible citizens and lifelong learners.

Purpose

In support of the Siersma Mission Statement, please review the Parent Involvement Plan. We ask and encourage you to become an active participant in your child’s education. Working collaboratively with the Siersma staff and community is important to make the 2012-2013 school year successful.

If you have any questions, please contact our school at (586) 574-3174.

Parent Involvement requires that communication between school and parents is regular, two-way, and meaningful to ensure successful student academic learning.

- Parents are asked and encouraged to play an active integral role in assisting their child’s learning
- Parents are asked and encouraged to be full partners in their child’s education and when appropriate, included in decision-making to assist in the education advancement and success of their child
- Parents have the opportunity to create, design and evaluate the parent involvement policy at the Annual Fall and Spring Parent Input Meetings

Siersma Elementary School believes that student academic achievement requires that parents have an understanding of curriculum, academic standards, knowledge of assessments, and school policies and procedures. To improve and enhance the academic achievement and success of their child, parents must have open and active communication with school staff and know how to monitor their child’s progress and work. Siersma will foster and encourage the school’s and parents’ capacity for a strong community contribution. Staff will be trained to build effective communication with parents and guardians, with the support of the school counselor/social worker. This will ensure effective involvement of parents and support a partnership between the school, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement.
I. I am asked and encouraged to be aware, informed and knowledgeable about my child’s curricular support programs by attending and becoming familiar with the following:

- Curriculum night
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- PTO Meetings
- Monthly School Newsletters
- Parent Handbook/Siersma Website
- Parent Literacy Workshops
- Parent Portal Website

II. I am asked and encouraged to provide a supportive home environment for my child to learn by doing the following things:

- Expecting achievement and offering encouragement
- Checking backpacks regularly
- Providing quiet time and a place to study
- Signing agenda/reviewing work from school regularly
- Being a positive role model
- Encouraging family reading time
- Limiting television and/or video/on-line access/phone use/texting
- Taking trips to the library
- Making connections between real life experiences and school work
- Monitoring my child’s progress on Parent Portal

III. I am asked and encouraged to be actively involved in the life of the school by:

- Attending school programs
- Attending classroom activities/field trips
- Volunteering in the classroom/school (yearly background check required)
- Participating in parent enrichment programs
- Engaging in annual parent input meetings
- Participating in after school programs (i.e., PTO, Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts)

IV. I am asked and encouraged to engage in open and timely communication with the school by:

- Responding to the school’s feedback about my child’s academic progress & behavior
- Advising school personnel of any special circumstances or needs of my child
- Being proactive in asking questions, expressing concerns, and seeking information appropriately and in a timely manner
- Making use of provided forms of communication
- Asking (under the “Parent Right To Know” requirements, in Title 1 Schools) that information be in an understandable and uniform format/language so it is understandable

V. I am asked and encouraged to help my child be a responsible, self-reliant member of the school community by:

- Expecting and modeling self discipline
- Expecting my child to take responsibility for their learning and their actions
- Committing my child to follow the school rules
- Demonstrating respect, consideration, and cooperation when dealing with others and expecting my child to do the same

VI. I am asked and encouraged to promote a healthy lifestyle for my child by:

- Making sure my child has rest (9-10 hours each night)...i.e. establish a regular bedtime to ensure this
- Making sure my child has a good nutritious breakfast before coming to school
- Making sure my child is appropriately dressed for the weather
- Making sure I keep my sick child home from school
- Attending the “Love & Logic” parent workshops

VII. As parents of Limited English Proficiency/Special Needs student(s) the school will help get me involved in my child’s education by:

- Following the district LEP plan and identifying LEP students
- Coordinating with various agencies to assist parents of LEP students
- Providing pertinent school information in the parents’ native language
- Translating, as necessary, communications with teacher/school to accommodate ESL population
- Providing Bilingual translators and/or interpreters for the ESL/Hearing Impaired during meetings
- Ensuring the building is Handicapped-accessible
- Providing phone and email conferences for parents who may be homebound and are unable to attend school conferences