

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

Gibson County School District

The Gibson County Parent Involvement Plan is a comprehensive plan that will help develop a meaningful partnership that meets the needs of the families and school communities involved; and incorporates ideas that benefit the involvement of the parents. The result of this plan will be schools where parents feel welcome and where they can make a significant contribution.

A Parent Advisory Committee comprised of family members whose children attend our schools, the Parent Coordinator, and a representative of the staff will review annually the Gibson County Parent Involvement Plan and the compacts that outline how parents, school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve high standards. This committee will make revisions to these based on a consensus of the group. The Family Involvement Plan will be posted on the district web site as well as the compact used at each school. Parents will be made aware of how to locate this plan and the importance of the compact. Compacts will be sent home by each local school and will be documented upon return. The staff member will serve as a liaison to the remainder of the staff and will, with the Parent Coordinator, educate staff in the value and contributions of parents, and in working with parents-how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.

The Parent Advisory Committee will schedule training opportunities which will equip families to help their children improve their academic achievement. These trainings will include, but not be limited to, literacy training and using technology to foster parental involvement. These trainings will be scheduled at flexible times to accommodate parents' schedules and made available for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practical in a language parents understand. Training materials will be provided.

The district will provide support for parental involvement activities per parent request. Title I schools will meet with the Federal Program Supervisor to ensure the support and coordination to implementing the parent involvement activities. This will help guarantee that schools continue to achieve high academic performance.

Family members/community stakeholders will be given opportunities to become active in the schools through a parent volunteer program. Tutors, classroom aides, chaperones for field trips, and library helpers are some of the areas where volunteers can be placed within the school.

A coordination meeting will be held in the spring to make certain the communities within our school district are aware of opportunities for children before they enter kindergarten. The schools will

invite parents and students who are in transition from a pre K program into kindergarten. This orientation will give assistance to make the transition go smoothly. In addition, the district will coordinate and integrate Title I-A parental involvement strategies with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, and Parents as Teachers when applicable.

At the end of each school year a needs assessment will be conducted by the school district. This survey will allow parents' input in the evaluation of the district plan for its effectiveness. The survey results will be evaluated by the core committee and the district plan will be revised to continue to improve academic performance.

The school district will survey/monitor meetings held in schools. Collaboration with school administrators will allow the district to recognize sub groups of parents who are not participating in available activities and identify the barriers that are keeping them from participating in the students' education. Strategies for more parent involvement will be developed by the local schools that will encourage all parents to be involved in school activities.

All teachers will have a working email address which will be posted both on the district web page and on each school's web page. This will offer an additional means of contact regarding student performance, or to request a meeting or conference with a teacher. Tutoring will be made available to students at the local schools with the use of extended contract. The school district will encourage schools to conduct trainings to teach parents how to help with homework, how to use a computer to find school web sites, and the importance of school attendance.

Each school will schedule parent orientation for parents when school begins. Teachers will explain to parents the course of study for the students, the course expectations, grading and homework policies, state standards and expected proficiency levels, state and local academic assessments, and the requirements of NCLB Section 1118. On display for parents to examine will be the textbooks and other materials used in the class.

Gibson County School District will make a concerted effort to keep parents informed and involved about the academic lives of their students. The schools will use telephone calls and home visits to show parents we are serious about the home-school relationship and will include all facets of the students' lives. Parent Portal will be implemented, allowing family members access to students' grades, schedules, attendance, transcripts, missing assignments, and discipline records. Training will be provided at each local school in the use of Parent Portal and other ways in which families can work with educators to improve student performance.