

GARRETSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Garretson Elementary School will complete the following in order to ensure that our school encourages and promotes parent involvement.

- **Our school will** convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Our school will inform parents of our school's participation in Title I and explain the requirements and the rights of the parents to be involved. This meeting will be held annually at the end of October or November. Another meeting, including parents, students, and siblings will be held annually to ensure flexibility so that all parents are able to participate. This Family Fun Night informs parents of the Title I program and also provides them with professional development in direct correlation with our state standards. It also allows parents to participate in a survey asking for parent input.
- **Our school will** involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs including planning, review and improvement of the school parental involvement policy. Suggestions will be noted at each meeting to revise Parent Involvement Policy. Parents will also be given a copy of our **School-Parent Compact** to sign and return to the Elementary Office.
- **Our school will** provide parents of participating children:
 - **Timely information** about the Title I program
 - **Description and explanation of the curriculum** in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - **If requested by parents**, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as possible.
 - **Our school will** provide assistance to the parents of our children in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and the State student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of all of our children. This will be fulfilled at parent teacher conferences and two annual Title I Fun Nights. Our counselor, principal and teachers will be available for explanation of these assessments.

- **Our school will** educate teachers, principals, and other staff in the value of parent involvement and in 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. This will take place at our beginning of the year in-service.
- **Our school will** coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, public preschools, PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) and all relevant entities. Our school will also utilize the parent resource network to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. And annual preschool screening is completed in March. All programs are in coordination by telephone, email and meetings pertaining to the needs of a specific child or children.
- **Our school will** ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and to the extent practical, in a language parents can understand. Our school disseminates information via the local newspaper (The Garretson Gazette), the school newsletter (The Dragon Flyer), local television channel, and our automated telephone system to ensure each parent is aware of each meeting, program or other activity.
- **Our school will** provide support for parental involvement activities such as our annual Back to School Open House Night in August, our informational/collaborative meeting about Title in October/November and Parent/Children Fun Nights in the fall and spring. Parents are also encouraged to observe/volunteer time in their child's classroom.
- **Our school will** provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practical; in a language such parents can understand.
- **Our school will** assist parents of parental organizations by informing them of such existence and purpose of these centers at our annual meeting. Literature is disseminated throughout the year to ensure that all requirements of Title I are met.