

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Cankton Elementary

Cankton Elementary recognizes that parent and family engagement is the key to academic achievement. The term “**parent**” refers to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for children, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, foster parents, step-parents, etc.

Research indicates when parents and other key family members are involved in their children’s education; the attitudes, behaviors and achievement of students are positively enhanced.

1) The school will provide:

- A written comprehensive parent and family engagement policy that meets the needs of all students participating in the Title I program.
- A plan to ensure that parents and key family members are involved in the development of school-wide and targeted assistance plans.
- An “**Action Team**” that is organized at each school for the school, family and community partnerships. The action team will take responsibility for assessing present practices including school improvement, implementing selected activities, and coordinating practice for all six types of involvement.
- A plan to inform parents of their child’s progress prior to the nine-week reporting periods.
- Prepared packets of essential information that will help parents feel comfortable with the staff and school environment.
- A technology friendly environment for parents to access information and skills regarding the school’s total available resources/curriculum.

2) Title I Parent and Family Engagement will:

- Promote two-way communications (home-to-school and school-to-home) about programs serving Title I students, student progress, school curriculum, and the assessments used to measure student progress.
- Involve parents, and family members with appropriate training, in instructional and support when at the school and in other locations that help the school and students reach state given objectives and standards.
- Provide training to parents in the following areas:
 - Academic Curriculum

- Six Types of Involvement

- Help parents develop a feeling of partnership in the educational growth and development of their children.
- Encourage parents and other family members to actively participate in all school related programs and activities.
- Provide parents and family members with strategies and techniques for assisting their children with learning activities at home that support and extend the school's instructional program

- Provide parents and family members with skills to access community and support services that strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning and development.
- Help parents and family members develop parenting skills to meet the basic obligations of family life and foster conditions at home, which emphasize the importance of education and learning.
- Provide schools with activities and partnerships that are designed to help reach our improvement goals and objectives.
- Collaborate with the community and other, local, state and national agencies to offer services for students, parents and other family members.

3) Parents Right to Know:

- Parents will be informed in a timely manner information regarding the professional qualifications of their children's classroom teachers.
- Procedures will be in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

4) The Action Team at our school will provide the following:

- A parent and family engagement policy that meets the school's current needs based on the latest information from the individual School Report Card.
- The school's specific strategies to increase and document parent participation at each site.
- The school's specific programs or activities to promote greater awareness to diminish barriers for the disabled and economically disadvantaged.
- Highlight activities parent engagement activities through the media, through newsletters to parents at the district and school level, and through broadcasts on radio and television.
- Help parents develop parenting skills to meet the basic obligations of family life and foster conditions at home, which emphasize the importance of education and learning.

5) Cankton Elementary will:

- Have a written comprehensive parent and family engagement policy that will meet the needs of all students participating in the Title I program.
- Ensure that parents are involved in the development of school-wide and targeted assistance plans and decisions made about how to carry out Title I.
- Have an **“Action Team”** for school, family and community partnerships. The action team will take responsibility for assessing present practices, implementing selected activities, and coordinate practice for all **Six-Types of Involvement**.
- Hold periodic scheduled meetings at the school with teachers, administrators, and other staff to discuss the curriculum, standards and assessments or innovative strategies the school is using to improve learning.
- Inform parents of their child’s progress prior to the nine-week reporting period.
- Prepare a packet of essential information that will help parents feel comfortable with the staff and school environment.
- Inform parents in a timely manner about the professional qualifications of their children’s classroom teacher.

Compacts - Each school will develop a compact that will describe:

- How parents will be responsible for supporting their child’s learning at school and at home.
- How the school will provide a “supportive and effective” environment for all students.
- The importance of communication between teachers and parents and students.

A Compact is a commitment to sharing responsibility for student learning and an action plan for family-school-community partnership to help children get a high-quality education.

The Six-Types of Involvement NNPS (National Network of Partnership Schools):

These six types of parent involvement roles require a coordinated school-wide effort that has the support of parents, teachers, students and administrators at each school site.

- Parenting:** Assist families with parenting and child-rearing skills, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions that support children as students at each age and grade level. Assist schools in understanding families.
- Communicating:** Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.
- Volunteering:** Improve recruitment, training, work, and schedules to involve families as volunteers and audience at the school or in other locations to support students and school programs.
- Learning at Home:** Involve families with their children in learning activities at home, including homework and other curriculum related activities and decisions.

Decision-Making: Include families as participants in school decisions, governance, and advocacy through Action Teams, PTA/O (Parent-Teacher Association/Organizations) school councils, committees, and other parent and family member supportive programs.

Collaborating with the Community: Coordinate resources and services for families, students, and the school with businesses, agencies, and other groups, and provide services to the community.

District/School Level Assessment

The District will use the NNPS Self-Assessment for School, Family and Community Partnerships as an aid in preparation, planning, and evaluating activities at both levels.

This instrument will be used in conjunction with other methods of evaluations according to the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act).

Student's Name

Parent's Signature