

**“Education is too important to be left solely to educators.” Francis Keppel, U.S.
Commissioner of Education**

**Carter G. Woodson Elementary School-A Title I School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
2019-2020**

The staff will seek, support, and affirm family and community collaboration in order to resolve all critical issues of student achievement. We encourage all parties involved to utilize the strategies and activities as described in this policy. The key to success is having an effective home-school-community partnership and we encourage all parties to use the strategies described in this policy.

I. Communication

Clear, weekly, two-way communication is the key to successful school-home-community partnerships. As a school we will communicate to all parents their rights and responsibilities and how they can support the school. At school events, interpreters will be available for Spanish speaking families. Likewise, families and the community will provide feedback to the school on programs, policies, student achievement, etc.

The following strategies and activities are available to promote, support, and evaluate this communication:

Open House	School Handbook	School Compacts
Agendas	Course Syllabi / Grading Policies	
Weekly Newsletters	Quarterly Report Card	Power School Access
Monthly Calendar	Home Visits	Family Nights
Reminder Notices	PARCC Parent Reports	MAP Parent Reports
Surveys	SIT Meetings-monthly	Annual Title I Meeting
Personal phone calls/notes	E-mails	Parent / Teacher Conferences
Social Media-Facebook, Twitter, County Website		

All documents are available translated in a family’s preferred language, upon request. If parents need any special accommodations for participation in any school activity they should contact the school principal.

II. Parenting

It is essential that Carter G. Woodson Elementary School keep families and the community informed about the school curriculum, programs, and policies. We will provide training for families and community members on leadership and effective involvement with our school. These trainings will provide an opportunity for parents to increase their knowledge of the academic standards, to learn how to effectively help their student in the home environment, and to gain strategies for effective parenting techniques that will enhance their student’s social as well as academic development. We will arrange to have these trainings and/or meetings at our school and at sites that are convenient to the community, as well as on our school website. Surveys will be conducted for families to indicate topics of choice for the training sessions. The school will provide reasonable

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support to encourage active family involvement, which includes: childcare, transportation, provide a variety of meeting times, and food.

Opportunities for involvement and trainings will include:

Family Nights	American Education Week	Parent Conferences
PAC meetings	LST meetings	Judy Center Learning Parties
School Improvement Team	SIT committees	Title I Information Night
IEP meetings	Community After School Program	

III. Volunteering

Carter G. Woodson Elementary School has a volunteer program in place. Parents and community members are sought and encouraged to become an active participant at and for the school. Opportunities for volunteering include but are not limited to:

Classroom assistant	Field trip chaperone
Clerical assistant	Dining room assistant

Volunteers must complete a brief or current application on file and be approved by the principal

IV. Student Learning

WES will provide a high quality education to all of its students using strategies as listed below:

- Teaching the Common Core State Standards through engaging and in-depth instruction
- Utilizing the Reading program and interventions
- Teaching the fine arts including art and music
- Use of visual & kinesthetic supports to help students who need specialized instruction
- Integrating technology into a variety of lessons and projects, using digital learning to prepare our students to succeed in a rapidly changing online platform.

WES will provide parents with data regarding local and state testing and specifically what it means to their child. This will be shared at SIT meetings as well as sent home in a letter.

V. Decision Making and Advocacy

WES will seek and value parent involvement as a way to increase academic achievement. Parents will be encouraged to:

- Consistently assist their children with homework and develop organizational skills
- Make sure that children have necessary classroom materials
- Monitor student progress on Power School

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- Encourage appropriate behavior in school
- Keep in touch with teachers by attending parent/teacher conferences and collaborations
- Attend school sponsored events, including School Improvement Team Meetings
- Provide input on the Parent Involvement Policy and Home School Compact

WES will:

- Invite parents to an annual meeting to jointly develop, evaluate, and revise the Home School Compact and Parent Involvement Policy. Drafts will be sent home in May of the prior year, and the annual fall meeting will be held in conjunction with Title I night. This year’s meeting will be in December.
- Share the School Improvement Plan with parents and seek input and suggestions for possible changes. The plan will be available online and on our parent board at school.
- Invite parents to provide input into the school’s decisions including ways to spend parental involvement funding and activities that would enhance their overall relationship with the school and staff. A budget survey, the Home School Compact, and the Family Engagement plan will be given out at Open House is available the first day of school.
- Seek feedback from parents after all events and consider the comments in future planning.
- Participate in professional development on how work with parents as equal partners.

VI. Collaborating With the Community

Woodson Elementary recognizes that strong ties with the community are important and should be fostered through positive communication and partnerships with various businesses and non-profit organizations. Students are able to see the connection between the curriculum and the skills required in the real world. We collaborate with the following partners on a regular basis to provide resources and increase parent involvement:

Somerset County Library-provide weekly/summer programs for students
Head Start and other day care facilities-articulation meetings and transition
U. S. Coast Guard-guest readers for classroom
Somerset County Health-provide materials and resources on healthy lifestyles
Crisfield Academy & High School-Holiday bazaar/Sports Day volunteers
Judy Center-parenting classes, family nights
American Legion-provide money for computer/technology supplies
Million Father March group-mentoring for students, guest readers
Somerset Early Learning Advisory Council-multi-agency resource sharing

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