

Pennington Middle School



2015-2016

Parent Involvement Plan

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Pennington Middle School jointly developed this parental involvement policy in consultation with school personnel, community members, and parents, and adopted it on September 15, 2013. It was reviewed and amended in August 2014 and August 2015. This policy was distributed to parents of participating children and to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents could understand. This policy shall be made available to the local community by school webpage, newspaper, school newsletter, etc. If the Title I plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the Lee County Public Schools will submit any parent comments with the application when the plan is submitted to the state. This parent involvement plan will be updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Part 1. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

Pennington Middle School will:

- (1) Convene an annual meeting in the fall to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved;
- (2) Offer a flexible number of meetings.
- (3) Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan (if applicable);
- (4) Provide parents of participating children:
 - (A) timely information about Title I programs;
 - (B) a 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; and
 - (C) If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible; and

- (5) If the school-wide program is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, Pennington Middle School will submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency (if applicable).

Part 2. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Pennington Middle School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. Also, the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the state's high standards.

School Responsibilities

Pennington Middle School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the state's Student academic achievement standards as follows:

Teachers will utilize the state blueprints, standards of learning, and resource guides to plan for and implement learning objectives in the classrooms. Differentiated instruction is utilized in the classrooms at Pennington Middle School in order to meet the learning needs of all students. The use of technology assessments, on-line benchmark tests with Interactive Achievement, Comprehensive Instructional Program Resources, STAR Reading and STAR Math, Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Test, as well as teacher-made assessments are utilized frequently to monitor student learning and student progress. In addition, remedial services are available to students in Reading and Math.

2. Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:

Parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled as the teacher finds it necessary and parents may call and schedule meetings with teachers, also as needed. There will be a regularly scheduled Open House in August and April to allow parents to meet with teachers. Title I will also hold a Family Reading Night and Family Math Night each year to encourage parents to come out and see what their children are learning.

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

Progress reports will be distributed 4 ½ weeks into each nine week grading period. Reports cards will be distributed every nine (9) weeks. Lee County Public Schools also has a Parent Portal online for parents to check student progress daily as well as ParentLink application for smart phones which also allows parents to check student progress daily.

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

Parents may consult with teachers via telephone calls or face to face meetings. Teachers will return parent telephone calls and/or arrange parent teacher conferences during their planning time. Parents and teachers are also encouraged to communicate electronically for progress reports and/or general communication.

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:

School newsletters are distributed monthly to inform parents/guardians of upcoming events and activities at Pennington Middle School. The school webpage is up-to-date with helpful information. Pennington Middle School takes great pride in encouraging parental involvement in our students' learning process.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning the following ways:

- ✓ *Monitoring attendance;*
- ✓ *Making sure that homework is completed;*
- ✓ *Monitoring amount of television their children watch;*
- ✓ *Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education;*
- ✓ *Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time;*
- ✓ *Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding as appropriate;*
- ✓ *Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, part A, parent representative on the school's school improvement team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the state's Committee of Practitioners, the school support team, or other school advisory or policy groups.*

Part 3. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Pennington Middle School and Lee County Public Schools assisted under this part:

- (1) Will provide assistance to parents of children served by Pennington Middle School and Lee County Public Schools as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, and state and local academic assessments; also monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- (2) Will provide materials and training to help parent work with their children to improve individual achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
- (3) Will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents; and how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;
- (4) 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 that is practicable and in a language that parents can understand;
- (5) Will provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request;
- (6) May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- (7) May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- (8) May provide reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- (9) May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- (10) May arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;

- (11) May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- (12) May establish a division-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section;
- (13) May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

Part 4. ACCESSIBILITY

Pennington Middle School, to the extent practicable, will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, in a format that is practicable and in a language that parents can understand.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Annette Tomlinson, Principal Designee
Nicole Ayers, Reading Specialist
Jessica Clark, Teacher/Parent
Vickie Haley, Guidance Counselor

Leslie Leonard, Teacher
Marsha Collins, Teacher
Holly Edwards, Teacher/Parent
Connie Burchett, Parent