

ELM RIVER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN/POLICY

Policy Cf. 7170

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOL PROGRAM 2013-2018

School Philosophy

This district provides an atmosphere for a genuinely unique learning experience for younger elementary students. Our viewpoint is that through cooperative learning, students maximize each other's learning. All individuals who enter these open doors of this small rural school will be encouraged with what they see. The components of a multi-graded classroom learning style with small group interaction and one-one instruction result in positive student achievement. We believe this experience works.

Mission

As a community related school district, we are striving to challenge each student, school employee and citizen to rise to the fullest of their potential. In recognizing that our students are, indeed, our future, we are providing a stimulating environment which includes but is not limited to, academic, emotional and social growth in order to develop responsible, caring citizens.

The Board of Education of the Elm River Township School District recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family. To support the goal of the school district to educate all students effectively, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. When parents are involved in their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievement of the students are positively enhanced.

Elm River Township School District believes that student academic achievement requires that parents have an understanding of curriculum, academic achievement standards, assessments, district/school policies and procedures, and of how to monitor their child's/children's progress.

In order to enhance parental involvement, six essential elements shall be promoted:

1. Communication Families and school staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about student learning.

2. Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning. Parents and staff will work together to promote student academic success by promoting healthy development at home and at school.

3. Parents are welcomed as volunteers. Opportunities for access to volunteering for services and civic activities in the school and community, and participation in class projects shall be provided and encouraged for parents.

4. Parents are partners in decisions that affect their child's/children's education. Parents may also request meetings with the teachers of the school to offer suggestions and make decisions which relate to the parental support and the education of their children. Parents are welcomed in an organizing, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of our school.

5. Parental environment plays a key role their child's/children's educational environment. Welcoming all families into the school community are invited as active participants in the life of the school, and to feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class and school.

6. Collaborating with Community. Families and school staff work together with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

Title 1 Program

In accordance with the requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act, the Elm River School Board of Education encourages parent(s) guardian(s) to participate in their Title 1 program by being offered substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children by the following policy.

Parent Involvement Policy (Cf. 7170)

The Board directs that the following actions by implemented to insure compliance with federal law and to invite parents to become involved with the education of their children.

1. Assistance to parent(s)/guardian(s) in understanding Title 1.

2. Parent notification of Title 1 student selection and criteria for selection during parent/teacher conferences or special meeting if needed.

3. Professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent involvement strategies.

4. Information regarding child's achievement and progress. Title 1 Program

***A information booklet (Student/Parent Handbook) containing pertinent school information will be given to each student at the beginning of each school year.**

***Elm River School has an occasional "Open House" to address the public. It allows for the students and parents to visit the classroom and meet the teachers.**

***Parent/Teacher conferences are held twice a year, and more if the need arises or at parental request to discuss student achievement, parental concerns, planning upcoming events, and encourage involvement.**

***Elm River will encourage parents in other activities that promote responsible parenting such as seeking parental support in home assignments.**

***Lead Teacher will publish a monthly newsletter addressing the accomplishments and events of the students.**

***Parents will be encouraged to communicate with teachers via phone calls, email, or a group meeting.**