

Parks Primary Parental and Family Engagement Policy

Mission Statement: Parks Primary's mission is to enable all learners' access to learning through the provision of:-

- differentiated, in-depth and cohesive learning programs aligned to year level content and achievement standards informed by the Louisiana state standards.
- highly effective teachers, focussed on improving student outcomes, through their commitment to ongoing professional development, quality teaching, evidence based practices, coaching and mentoring and collaboration
- a quality inclusive learning environment that is responsive to student need through the use of data driven instruction
- enriching, engaging resources and classroom environments that facilitate student learning
- opportunities for community and parents to participate in learning and decision making partnerships

Vision Statement: Our vision at Primary Primary School is to empower students to acquire, demonstrate, articulate and value knowledge and skills that will support them, as life-long learners and practice the core values of the school: respect, tolerance & inclusion, and excellence.

Statement of Purpose: The St. Martin Parish School Board recognizes that parental involvement 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, stepparents, etc. Studies demonstrate that when parents are involved in their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievement of students are positively enhanced.

Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children; consequently, parents are vital and necessary partners, with the educational communities, throughout their children's school career. Although parents come to the schools with diverse cultural backgrounds, primary languages, and needs, universally all parents want what is best for their children. Parental involvement must be a focus in the classroom if schools are to be able to achieve high academic standards and create productive citizens. Schools in collaboration with parents, teachers, students and administrators, must establish and develop efforts that enhance parental involvement and reflect the needs of students, parents, and families in the communities which they serve.

In order to meet these expectations, the Parental and Family Engagement Plan for Parks Primary will address the following standards from all directions including school to family, family to school, community to school and school to community:

Standard One: Communication with parents and families (*Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful*):

Parks Primary School (PPS) regularly attempts to find better ways of communication between home, school, and community. This involves informing parents of curricular programs, instruction, assessments, support services available to students, and the individual student progress. To meet this commitment, the following actions will be taken by Parks Primary School:

*Send home district handbook which provides each student with information regarding the St. Martin Parish School Board staff, contact information, policies, and procedures

*Send home school handbook which provides each student with information regarding Parks Primary campus procedures, student and parent rights and responsibilities, attendance regulations, Parks Primary School Family Engagement Plan, dress codes, discipline guidelines, Positive Behavior Support expectations,

transportation procedures to and from school and rules, safe schools expectations including visitors, playground, cafeteria, etc., grading policies, assessments, Title 1, medical concerns, parent-teacher conferences, internet use guidelines, and awards opportunities

*Provide daily communication between parent and teacher regarding expectations and progress through Remind APP, emails, and teacher/school memos

*Regularly update the Parks Primary School website with relevant and timely information including staff information, email addresses and websites, helpful educational web links, school events, contact information, calendars, and etc.

* Conduct an annual open house for all parents

* Schedule Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten orientation during annual testing

* Conduct parent-teacher conference days in which parents can meet with their child's teacher to discuss student progress

* Maintaining communication regarding student progress through the use of weekly tests folders, report cards and progress reports, as well as ongoing parent-teacher direct, oral, and written communications

*Scheduling awards day programs referred to as academic assemblies within the classroom once a nine weeks and an end of year awards ceremony

* Encouraging the use of the St. Martin Parish Parent Command Center and provide instruction in its use as needed

* Utilizing parent surveys and/or evaluations to solicit parent comments and concerns - PPS Leadership Team meetings, Open House Events, one-on-one and small group meetings, and Family Nights

* Providing translated communication services and materials as needed for parents and students of limited English proficiency and providing a translator for deaf parents

*Sending Parent Compacts home

* Recognizing outstanding student achievement in local newspapers

* Sending home monthly newsletter with updated activities and important dates

*Organizing annual Achievement Day Activities, Pumpkin Patch, and the annual Title 1 information meeting

Standard Two: Parenting Skills *(Responsible parenting is promoted and supported):*

Parks Primary School is committed to enhancing parenting skills, assisting parents by providing homes that value education and providing professional development to the Parks Primary School faculty and staff in the area of diversity. To meet this commitment Parks Primary School will take the following actions:

*Schedule an annual Title I orientation meeting to inform parents of the Title I policies, legal requirements, parenting rights, services, and compacts

*Schedule a LEAP parent awareness training

*Send home standardized test taking tips/strategies

*Schedule Family Nights (Reading/Math)

*Inform parents of district and school level workshops for parents

*Inform parents of PBIS procedures for consequences and rewards

*Inform parents of Getting Along Together program

Standard Three: Student Learning and Learning at Home*(Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning):*

Parks Primary School is devoted to improving learning opportunities for students both at home and at school. Learning at home includes family supporting the educational process and assisting their child/children with completing homework on a daily basis. To meet this commitment, Parks Primary School will take the following actions:

- *Keeping parents informed about higher standards of learning
- *Regularly utilizing school/teacher memos to keep parents aware of curricular and behavioral occurrences and expectations within the classroom
- *Scheduling meetings and communication opportunities between the parent and the teacher for the development of differentiated learning opportunities to be utilized both at home and in the classroom
- *Sponsoring Red Ribbon Week/Character Education Week activities
- *Strongly supporting and incorporating Positive Behavior Intervention Program
- *Holding Academic Related Assemblies such as Harvey Rabbit and Ned Show
- *Informing parents of the iReady program and how to monitor their child's progress

Standard Four: Volunteering*(Schools are open and inviting to parents and families and are actively seeking parental support and assistance for school programs):*

Parks Primary School faculty and staff encourage opportunities for parents and the community to participate and support student learning and success including both on-site and off-site activities. The advantage of a united community and school family are very much appreciated by the students and teachers. The participation of the family and community in the educational process creates positive reactions when the students see the support provided by family and members of the community in their learning environment. To meet this commitment, the following actions will be taken by Parks Primary School:

- *Send reminders to encourage parents and community to volunteer to assist Parks Primary teachers and students in the educational process (Field Trips, classroom activities, programs, and projects)
- *Strongly seek talents and interest of parents and community members which may promote positive experiences for Parks Primary School students
- *Maintaining a log of parent and community volunteer activities
- *Engaging parents and the community to assist in planning learning and support activities for Parks Primary School
- *Sponsoring an annual Book Fair

Standard Five: School Decision Making and Advocacy:*(Parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families):*

Parks Primary School will search for effective, innovative methods of promoting, encouraging, and improving parent/community involvement in the educational process. To meet this commitment, the following actions will be taken by Parks Primary School:

- *Encourage community members and parents to serve on the School Leadership Team, as well as additional school based committees
- *Continually seeking Partners in Education to broaden the list which currently includes - WalMart, Winn Dixie, Cajun Chef, Cargil, Country Place Veterinary Clinic, Farmer's and Merchants Bank, Fred Mills, Hebert's

Custom Cabinets, McDonald's, Teche Valley, Keith Thibodeaux, Ltd., Poche and Pruitt, Sonic, Southland Farms, Buffalo Wild Wings, Parks Volunteer Fire Department, St. Joseph Church, St. Martin Parish Sheriff Office

*Sponsoring annual canned good drive and coats for the needy

*Hosting and planning special events, such as Family Night, Pumpkin Patch, Grandparents' Program, Achievement Day, and Mardi Gras Parade

*Conduct Leadership team meetings which includes both school and parent representatives for the review of the School Parent Involvement Policy annual. The School Parent Involvement Policy is posted on school website for review (parents are notified through school memo and monthly newsletter to review policy for changes). Once changes are suggested the Leadership Team meets to make needed changes and policy is sent home.

*Conduct an annual Title 1 meeting where parents review and contribute ideas on how to spend the schools set aside funds

Standard Six: Collaborating with the Community*(Community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning):*

Parks Primary School faculty and staff are committed to use parent communication and opportunities for shared input to assist with a plan of action based on goals and objectives which leads to greater school improvement and student success. The school will maintain an open door policy for parents and community members. To meet this commitment, Parks Primary will seek parent and community input in the facilitation of the following committees and processes:

*Pupil Progression Committee

*School Based Learning Committees

*Crisis Management Teams

*School Improvement Teams

*Title 1 School Wide Planning Committee

*Positive Behavior Intervention Support Team

Parks Primary School will implement these activities as well as foster a parental involvement program that has a favorable impact on student achievement and a positive productive interaction between the home, the school, and the community. The faculty and staff at Parks Primary School through the Title I Parental Involvement Program is dedicated to offering parents a variety of opportunities to become involved in their child's schooling as well as the opportunities to get to know their school, the Title 1 Program, and the school faculty and staff.

Parks Primary Parental and Family Engagement Plan

Please sign that you have received the Parks Primary Parental and Family Engagement Plan. Return this form to your child's teacher once completed.

Child's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

Parent's Signature _____

