

St. Martinville Primary
Parental Involvement Policy

Mission Statement: At St. Martinville Primary School, students are empowered and encouraged to build trusting relationships that foster academic growth and leadership.

Vision Statement: By teaching to and from the mind, heart, body, and spirit, St. Martinville Primary is a school where every student is empowered and encouraged to develop those gifts through relationships that demonstrate/develop growth and leadership.

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 St. Martinville 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

St. Martinville Primary continually seeks methods of improving communication between home, school, and community with regularity and in a meaningful manner concerning student expectations, curriculum, instruction, assessment, programs, and the individual student progress. To meet this commitment, the following actions will be taken by St. Martinville Primary:

- *Continually updating the St. Martinville Primary website and Facebook page with relevant and timely information including staff information, email addresses, and websites, helpful educational web links, school happenings, contact information, calendars, lunch menu, etc.
- *Sending monthly calendars home
- *Hosting open house events such as "Meet 'N Greet"
- *Encouraging parent-teacher conferences and facilitate these meetings by maintaining an open door policy through contact with the teacher, counselor, or administrators for these concerns as well as others
- *Hosting awards programs and/or synergy assemblies
- *Continually soliciting parent comments and concerns from parent surveys, PTO meetings, and Open House Events
- *Sending Parent Compacts home
- *Recognizing outstanding student achievement in local newspapers

- *Hosting the annual Dad's Day, Grandparent's Day, Muffins with Mom Event, and SweetHeart Dance
- *Use of "Remind" App for communication and texts, Leader in Me Synergy Assemblies

Standard Two: Parenting Skills St. Martinville Primary is committed to enriching parenting skills, aiding parents in providing homes that support childhood education and development, and furthering the education of our staff in working effectively with the diversity represented by our SMP families. To meet the commitment, the following actions will be taken by St. Martinville Primary:

- *Providing a Title 1 Meeting to explain Title 1 policies, services and compacts
- *Sending home test taking tips/strategies for grades 3-5
- *Hosting a Math (STEM Night) and ELA Night
- *Sponsoring an Annual Meet and Greet Activity

Standard Three: Student Learning and Learning at Home : St. Martinville Primary is committed to continually improving the learning opportunities for students both on campus and at home. Learning at home includes family interaction that supports school based learning and provides encouragement and guidance for good student education. To meet this committee, the following actions will be taken by St. Martinville Primary:

- *Keeping parents informed about higher standards of learning
- *Sponsoring Red Ribbon Week Activities
- *Making parents aware of Accelerated Reader program and STEM program
- *Providing meetings and communication opportunities between the parent and the teacher for the creation of individual learning strategies to be utilized both at home and in the classroom for the furtherance of student education.

Standard Four: Volunteering: St. Martinville Primary faculty and staff recognize the large variety of opportunities for parents and the community to volunteer in the support of student learning and success. The benefits of a cohesive community and school family are strongly appreciated and encouraged. The selfless examples seen by the students, the increased time to teach experienced by the teacher, the ownership experienced by the families, the input shared by the volunteers, the cohesiveness strengthened by the experience between the school, families, and community serve only positive outcomes when students see strong volunteerism taking place in their learning environment. To meet this commitment, the following actions will be taken by St. Martinville Primary:

- *Encouraging and seek out opportunities for parents and community to regularly volunteer for the good of St. Martinville Primary students.
- *Actively seeking talents and interest of parents and community members which may promote positive experiences for St. Martinville Primary students.
- *Actively and regularly informing parents of opportunities to volunteer at St. Martinville Primary which may promote positive experiences for St. Martinville Primary students.
- *Maintaining a log of parent and community volunteer activities.
- *Sponsoring two Book Fairs annually
- *Engaging parents in academically relevant assemblies

Standard Five: School Decision Making and Advocacy: St. Martinville Primary includes in its definition of "community" all those interested in or affected by the quality of education produced at St. Martinville Primary. The St. Martinville Primary faculty and staff are committed to the idea that our students' academic achievement and success strongly determined by the partnerships created by the St. Martinville Primary family. To meet this commitment, the following actions will be taken by St. Martinville Primary:

- *Continually seeking Partners in Education to broaden the list
- *Sponsoring the annual “Fall Fest”
- *Sponsoring a “Food for Families” drive

Standard Six: Collaborating with the Community: St. Martinville faculty and staff is strongly committed to providing opportunities for shared input resulting in a plan of action based on cohesive goals and objectives which leads to greater school improvement and student success. This commitment, by definition, must engage parents and community members in an open-door policy. To meet this commitment, St. Martinville Primary will seek input by the support and active facilitation of the following committees and processes:

- *School Based Learning Committees
- *School Improvement Teams
- *Crisis Management Teams
- *Title 1 School Wide Planning Committee
- *Positive Behavior Intervention Support Team
- *Parent Teacher Committee

St. Martinville Primary will implement these activities as well as continually seek out additional opportunities to encourage family, parental, and community engagement in the success of our school and that of student success and achievement.