Oak Grove Elementary School Parent and Family Involvement 2017-2018

1. Describe the key strategies planned to increase meaningful parental involvement that is designed to enhance home-school partnerships and improve student learning.

At Oak Grove Elementary School, we recognize that parental involvement is directly related to children's academic success. Therefore, we encourage family presence and parental leadership within our school community.

A number of strategies are used to promote parental involvement. Our Back-to-School Ice Cream Social in which parents and students have an opportunity to receive an orientation to the school, meet their teachers, and view the curriculum for the coming year, is held the last Thursday of August. Bilingual staff members are in attendance at the Social to assist families who speak a language other than English. In September, as part of kindergarten assessment and Gradual Entry, the kindergarten teachers worked with families to orientate them to the school, the curriculum, and the classrooms.

An additional family orientation is held in the Fall of each school year that is specifically designed for families of English Language Learners. This provides, for families who speak a language other than English, a smaller setting (with interpreting services included) where the ELD teacher is able to explain to parents the curriculum and services that their children will be receiving during the course of the school year.

Our annual Title 1 Night celebrates reading. It is a time to bring families together so that they can participate in reading activities that mirror the classroom experience. Staff members run each station where different strategies are explained, and parents have the opportunity to practice. Parents read stories to their child from the core program, and from supplemental readers that are used in the classroom. Everyone joins together to hear guest readers and to learn strategies to help support reading instruction. We invite outside agencies such as Metropolitan Family Services, who provide services for families in need, and representatives from the public library so that students and family members can receive their library card. During this event we also explain to parents that we are a school wide Title 1 facility, and provide general information concerning the Title 1 program and the support that it allows for all of our students. Each student will receive a free book that is at his or her appropriate reading level. This is intended to continue the gift of reading outside of the school setting.

Parent conferences are conducted in a variety of formats including direct parent teacher meetings, student led conferences, and home visits. In addition, interpreters are provided for all of our conferences when appropriate. At these meetings the Title 1 program is once again explained and parent/teacher Title 1 Compacts are distributed. We revise our school-parent Compact in May of each year in consultation with our Parent Teacher Organization and any parental comments received by teachers throughout the year. A copy is maintained on the school website. The compact is shared with parents, and they

are asked to commit to working in partnership with the school and their child in ensuring that their child is successful in school.

School flyers (translated) are utilized to keep parents up to date on events happening at school. The school and the Parents Teachers Organization (PTO) both maintain electronic platforms to provide helpful information to parents.

We ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a format and in a language the parents can understand. We provide opportunities for parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children to communicate fully with our staff. Letters sent home to parents are reviewed by multiple staff members to ensure that the language and format are accessible to families. Whenever parent meetings are used to disseminate information, the focus of the meeting is to make the information as engaging and understandable as possible. In all parent meetings there are numerous opportunities for parents to ask questions and speak to staff in a more comfortable one to one situation. All parents are encouraged to observe their child in classes and work with staff to stimulate the student's academic growth. Regular IEP meetings also allow the parents of identified students to get information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language they can understand.

Oak Grove has an active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). The PTO is engaged in recruiting and organizing volunteers throughout the school community. The PTO holds monthly meetings led by parents, promotes the learning partnership between parents and the school, fundraises for school needs, and provides information of interest to parents. The PTO sponsors and organizes multiple evening events that bring parents in to the school and provides age-appropriate entertainment for families at a reasonable (and most times free) cost.

Parents are encouraged to volunteer in various roles both in and out of the classroom. District personnel provide training for parents. The Oak Grove staff is committed to being very explicit in inviting parents to participate as classroom volunteers by either calling or writing to parents to extend invitations to help. The following is a partial list of volunteer opportunities available for consideration:

- Teach art lessons to students (K-5)
- Help with vision/hearing screening (K-5)
- Read to students in K-3rd grades in English or another language
- Assist teacher within classroom during learning time (K-5)
- Assist teacher by organizing papers before or after school (K-5)
- Crosswalk duty (before or after school)
- Assist with school-wide fundraisers
- Attend and participate in PTO meetings
- Chaperone field trips outside of the school building (K-5)
- Assist teacher within the classrooms for celebrations (K-5)
- Assist with Book Fair

- Help organize students for school pictures (K-5)
- Become a member of Site Council/provide feedback of the School Improvement Plan
- Become a SMART volunteer
- Assist with organizing materials for the first day of school (mid August)
- Help to welcome new families to Oak Grove throughout the year
- Help with the end of the year events (e.g. Field Day)

Throughout the year, parents are also invited to attend and participate in classroom celebrations and assemblies.

2. Briefly describe the process used to develop and implement the parent Compact.

The Compact for Learning formalizes the relationship between parent and teacher to support each and every student. This includes providing the basic needs at home for learning such as a quiet place to work, a focus on good nutrition, rest, and limited electronic distractions. The compact is developed every year with input from parents and teachers in the spring, and then signed during the Fall conference.

3. Describe the process used to meet with parents of students who have not met academic standards.

During the course of the school year, teachers are asked to identify students who are not meeting grade level standards. The Response to Intervention team meets with grade level teams to develop levels of academic support for groups and individual students. When a student receives additional support, teachers provide parents with a brochure outlining the Response to Intervention process. As the level of support becomes more intensive, parents are invited to be a part of the team making decisions about specific interventions for home and/or school.

Teachers also meet with parents and families to discuss progress during Fall conferences when students are not meeting academic standards. Parents receive a written report card.

4. Describe the coordination and integration of Federal and State Programs (eg. Homeless, Services for English Learners, Head Start, Special Education). Describe the on-going coordination with other community programs and agencies.

At Oak Grove Elementary School, Title 1 services are provided in conjunction with ELD and SpEd services to provide seamless instruction to our students. The specialists meet frequently to assess student progress and to address issues that might negatively impact any effect from pulling students from class to provide specialized services for our students.

Oak Grove students are identified for homeless or migrant services under the North Clackamas School District identification criteria and process. In addition, Clackamas County Head Start is available for pre-kindergarten students who meet Head Start guidelines.

Metropolitan Family Services has partnered with the North Clackamas School District for the last ten years. With this partnership we are able to offer at the district level parent education resources such as ESL/GED classes and parenting groups, as well as family engagement activities. Local high schools, businesses and churches provide materials, supplies, and volunteers.

In addition to Metropolitan Family Services, Oak Grove partners with other agencies to provide social services such as:

- Backpack Buddies that provides weekend meals to over 72 students.
- Costco has donated 50 backpacks and supplies.
- Putnam High School that provides mentors and tutors for our students.
- Wichita Family Support Center and Community Services provides clothing, community resources, and a food bank for families in need.
- Clackamas Sunrise Rotary who provides each third grade student with a dictionary and a thesaurus. In addition, they provide books in support of the Oregon Battle of the Books program.
- SMART who coordinates volunteers to read with our kindergarten through third grade students.
- Rose Villa who provides volunteers to meet with our first grade students to read, play board games, and listen to musical performances.
- Various community businesses that anonymously donate school supplies and coats.
- Koida nursery donates flowers for our Community Service Day.
- The Milwaukie Police Department donates bikes, helmets and locks for our students who do not have access to purchasing a bike.