Claxton Elementary School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2024-2025

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I. General Policy Statement

At Claxton Elementary School, we will offer meetings throughout the year, to which all parents will be invited, to promote parent-school communication and to increase parent involvement in their children's education. These meetings will be scheduled at times that are convenient to parents, including mornings and evenings. The ESEA requires the involvement of parents in Title I, Migrant and ESL programs.

II. Parental Involvement Goals

The faculty and staff at Claxton Elementary School will, in coordination with parents of participating K5 children, develop programs, activities and procedures, which have the following goals:

A. To inform parents in a timely manner about program(s) for which their children qualify to be served and instructional objectives of the program(s). Information sessions for parents may include Curriculum Night, Parenting meetings, Open House, Carnivals, and Transition Meetings.

B. To improve the effectiveness of communication with parents as equal partners and build ties between parents and the school. Consultation with parents may include use of a consultant, input from Parent Advisory meetings throughout the year, newsletters and other publications, Parent Teacher conferences, school messenger phone calls and emails.

C. To implement a variety of approaches to improving parental involvement. These approaches may include parenting meetings, advisory meetings, field trips, conferences, lunch with their child, newsletters, calendars, volunteering, and Parent Teacher Organization meetings.

D. To establish a partnership between the school and parents by providing assistance in understanding program standards and student achievement standards. Assistance in understanding standards may include state standards information, grading scale information, school initiatives, new testing, how to help at home, and homework explanations.

E. To offer encouragement and opportunity for literacy training for parents throughout the year based on assessed needs or parental requests. Determining parental needs may include parent survey information to determine needs. These surveys may be given at any Title I event at school, as well as during Family Voices nights when the school Social Justice Team travels to community centers to reach the parents of Claxton.

F. To involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of programs, including the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school wide program(s).

This involvement may include:

1. Participation in the School Improvement Plan:
2. Review of curriculum in use at the school
3. Review of academic assessments and proficiency levels
4. Opportunities for parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children
5. Opportunities for parents of participating children to comment on the plan and/or any program if they believe it is not satisfactory
6. Hold a minimum of two (4) parenting meetings with topics of meetings based on needs assessments, discipline, achievement, State Assessment Information, quarterly assessments, motivation, study habits, curriculum, etc.
G. To notify parents in writing at the beginning of each school year that they may receive information about teachers' qualifications. Parents may ask for and receive the following: 1. The School Report Card from the Department of Public Instruction
2. Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject matter he or she teaches
3. Whether qualification and licensing criteria have been waived to permit the teacher to teach on an emergency or other provisional basis
4. The teacher's college major, any graduate certification or degrees the teacher has, and the field of discipline of those certificates or degrees
5. Whether teacher assistants or similar paraprofessionals provide services to the parents' children and, if they do, their qualifications.

In addition, we will:

● Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents will be invited and encouraged to attend for the purpose of (a) informing parents of the school's participation in the Title I program described in the NCLB legislation, (b) explaining the requirements of the Title I program, and (c) answering questions about the rights of parents to be informed about and involved in Title I.
● Offer meetings throughout the year, to which all parents will be invited, to promote parent-school communication and to increase parent involvement in their children's education. These meetings will be scheduled at times that are convenient to parents, including mornings and evenings.
● Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, including the parent involvement plan.
● Provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards, state student academic achievement standards, state and local assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
● Supply materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their achievement, such as literacy training, Math Night, and using technology.

● Educate teachers, support staff, administration, and other staff to value the contributions of parents; to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; to implement and coordinate parent programs; and to build ties between parents and the school.
● Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

2. Describe selection process for participants who review policy (school improvement team, advisory council, parent-teacher organization)

The Parent Involvement Policy and Compact program are reviewed during Parent Team meeting at the beginning and the end of the year. Feedback is solicited and changes are made on both documents based on the parents feedback. The School Improvement Team, including parent members, will discuss the goals set by the Title I committee to ensure the goals are aligned to the School's School Improvement Goals. The Parent Involvement Policy is included in the Parent/Teacher Handbook and posted on the Claxton Website. The School Improvement Team and Title I team also review and make adjustments if needed annually. The goals are voted on by the staff.

3. Annual Meeting – Include strategies for informing parents of their child's participation in Title I Part A.

The administration at Claxton Elementary School conducted a meeting with parents in which Claxton, state, and local data was reviewed, Title I goals and budget was addressed and there was a question and answer session.

4. Parental Involvement

The faculty and staff at Claxton Elementary School believed that building positive relationships with parents is the foundation of the students' success. At Claxton, we encourage a variety of parental involvement opportunities, such as; volunteering, becoming a room rep, PTO, Family Voices, Surveys, Title I engagement days/nights, and much more.

The administration sends weekly all-calls to parents, and the teachers send weekly online newsletters. In addition, the staff at Claxton host monthly PTO meetings, Curriculum Night, Thanks for Reading Day, Winter Lunch Day, Craft Fair, Fall Carnival, Monthly PBIS awards assemblies, Chicken Dinner, Math Night, and Transition Day.
During the beginning of year and end of year school improvement team meetings Title I budget is discussed with a parent representative.

We also involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, including the parent involvement plan and compact.

It is our duty to provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards, state student academic achievement standards, state and local assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

At Claxton Elementary School we supply materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their achievement, such as literacy training, Math Night, and using technology.

We also educate teachers, support staff, administration, and other staff to value the contributions of parents; to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; to implement and coordinate parent programs; and to build ties between parents and the school.

In addition, we provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.