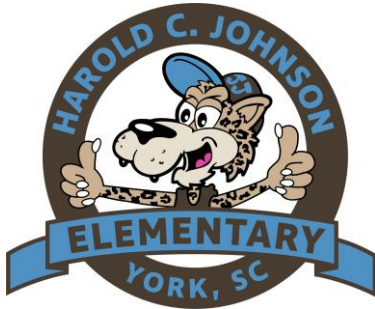


Family Engagement Plan

Harold C. Johnson Elementary School



Harold C. Johnson Elementary School believes that parents are vital partners in the education of students. The school hosts multiple events each year in order to engage parents and families.

Parent Orientation/Parent Conferences

We begin each school year by offering multiple Parent Orientation Sessions. These events allow parents to meet the teachers and to learn about the expectations for that particular grade level. Parents register for a time slot to attend. Teachers prepare presentations that outline the expectations for that grade level. At the end of the first quarter, we offer extended hours for parents to attend parent conferences. Our goal is that 100% of parents will attend a conference. Teachers go over important assessment information and explain our standards-based report card. Parents may share any concerns and have an opportunity to ask questions related to their child's academic performance.

Family Nights and Special Events

Each year, Harold C. Johnson provides annual celebrations and new traditions for parents and families to engage with the school.

Parent Orientation/Open House (August)

Monthly Student of the Month Celebrations in the auditorium

Grandparents' Day Celebration (either a breakfast or lunch event) (September)

Fall for Reading- (October)- Halloween-themed event with trick or treating, carnival games, free books

Veterans' Day Celebration- November

Book Fair with extended hours for parents to shop with their children (October and March)

One Book/One School Celebration (Varies)

Valentine's Dance (February)

Monthly Domino's Spirit Night at local Domino's Pizza

McTeacher Night at our local McDonald's (varies)

Wake Up and Read- (March) families come in and read with students before school begins

Testing and/or School Readiness Night- April

Field Day (May)

Awards Day Ceremonies for each grade level (May)

Weekly Newsletter

Harold C. Johnson sends out a weekly S'More newsletter. The newsletter is sent to all parents via email and text through Parent Square. The newsletter is interactive with direct links to items of interest (i.e. t-shirt sales, parent sign-ups, etc.). The newsletter is also posted on our school Facebook page and linked on our school website.

PTO and SIC

We maintain a weekly PTO and SIC update in our newsletter. These sections highlight the work of both parent organizations. The PTO consists of parents who plan, organize, and host special events and fundraisers. They plan our Grandparents' Day Celebration, Fall for Reading, and our Valentine's Dance. They organize fundraisers to support grants to fund projects for teachers' classrooms.

The SIC is a group that assists the principal with school improvement. This group also maintains a section in the newsletter to keep parents informed about their work. The SIC meets with the principal to review school report card data and to set goals for school improvement. In 2024, the HCJ SIC was named the winner of the Dick and Tunky Riley Award for SIC Excellence. The SIC created an educational video series on school readiness. They also developed a video to inform parents of the Read to Succeed Law in South Carolina.

Website with Videos

The HCJ SIC created several video series to keep parents informed. Check out the "For Parents" page of our website to access the videos:

[For Parents - Harold C Johnson Elementary School](#)

Beanstack for At-Home Reading

The HCJ SIC encouraged the purchase of Beanstack, an online platform to encourage at-home reading. The program offers competition and game-like functions to encourage students to read at home. Check out information about Beanstack in our newsletter:

<https://app.smore.com/n/t5qrw>

Communication Folders

All students receive a communication folder at the beginning of the school year. The folder is marked on one side "keep at home" and "return to school" on the other. All important communications go through this folder. Parents know that graded papers will be sent home each Wednesday. Daily communication logs are sent with the classroom newsletter. Interim reports are sent out every 4.5 weeks. Report Cards are sent home at the end of each quarter. These reports are signed and returned.

Parent Square

All parents are automatically enrolled in Parent Square upon student enrollment. Parent Square allows teachers to share information directly with parents via text, phone call, or post. Parents can communicate directly with teachers and other staff as well. Parent Square also has sign-up

capability to allow teachers to send out sign up forms for sending in materials, volunteering as a guest reader, or coming in for conferences.

Music Programs and Learning Celebrations

Each grade level shares a musical performance for parents that relates to something they are learning. Parents and community members are invited to attend the performances. Grade levels also invite parents in for learning celebrations throughout the year.

First grade- Veterans' Day Program

Fourth grade- holiday program in December

Second and third grades- Music in our Schools Month program in March

Kindergarten and Pre-School- Spring Programs

One Book/One School

Each year, a book is selected for the entire school to read together. A copy of the book is purchased for each student. Teachers and staff create recordings of each chapter so that students who cannot read the book on their own can read along if needed. A reading schedule is provided with a goal of having each student in the school read the same book. Prizes are offered, contests are held, and students are encouraged to read the book with their families. A culminating family night/celebration is held.

Translation Services

Our school website, Parent Square, and weekly newsletter can be translated into any language. Our district's Spanish translator is housed at Harold C. Johnson Elementary School and is available to translate during and after school hours. Our district also partners with Propio in order to provide accessible translation in any language.