

Lincoln R-2 Schools

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School, Parent, and Family Engagement Policy

Lincoln Elementary School recognizes that parents and families are their children's first and most important teachers. We believe that meaningful family engagement contributes significantly to student achievement and school improvement. Therefore, Lincoln Elementary School, in partnership with parents, families, staff, and the community, will develop and maintain programs and practices that strengthen family engagement and support student success. This policy has been jointly developed with parents and family members and will be distributed annually to all families and made available on the school's website and in the school office.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish expectations and procedures for meaningful parent and family engagement in accordance with Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Lincoln Elementary School will:

- Involve parents and families in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs.
- Provide opportunities for regular, two-way, meaningful communication between home and school.
- Build the capacity of parents and staff to work together to improve student academic achievement.
- Coordinate parent and family engagement activities with other federal, state, and local programs when appropriate.

Annual Title I Meeting

Lincoln Elementary School will hold an annual Title I Parent Meeting at a convenient time to:

- Inform parents of the school's participation in Title I programs.
- Explain the requirements of Title I.
- Describe parents' rights to be involved in their child's education.
- Review the School, Parent, and Family Engagement Policy.
- Discuss the School-Parent Compact.
- Share information regarding academic standards, assessments, and student achievement expectations.

Parent and Family Involvement in Planning and Review

Lincoln Elementary School will involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of:

- The Schoolwide Program Plan (if applicable).
- The School, Parent, and Family Engagement Policy.
- The School-Parent Compact.
- The use of Title I funds reserved for parent and family engagement activities.

Parent input may be gathered through:

- Parent advisory meetings.
- Surveys and questionnaires.
- Family engagement events.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- School improvement committee meetings.

Communication with Families

Lincoln Elementary School will provide timely information to parents and families through:

- School newsletters.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- Progress reports and report cards.
- School website and social media platforms.
- Phone calls, emails, text messages, and other communication tools.

Information will be provided, whenever practicable, in a language and format that parents can understand.

Building Capacity for Family Engagement

To help parents and families support their children's academic achievement, Lincoln Elementary School will:

- Provide information about Missouri Learning Standards and grade-level expectations.
- Offer assistance in understanding academic assessments and student progress reports.
- Share strategies families can use to support learning at home.
- Provide materials and resources to strengthen learning at home.
- Offer family engagement events, workshops, and educational activities throughout the year.

Building Capacity of School Staff

Lincoln Elementary School will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school staff on:

- The value and utility of contributions made by parents and families.
- Effective ways to communicate and partner with families.
- Strategies for coordinating parent involvement programs.
- Building positive relationships between school and home.

Coordination of Services

Lincoln Elementary School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, as appropriate, with other programs including:

- Special education services
- Migrant education programs
- English learner programs
- Community organizations
- Early childhood programs

Accessibility

Lincoln Elementary School will provide opportunities for participation by all parents and family members, including those with:

- Limited English proficiency.
- Disabilities.
- Migratory status.
- Other barriers to participation.

Reasonable accommodations and supports will be provided whenever possible.

School-Parent Compact

Lincoln Elementary School and parents will jointly develop a School-Parent Compact outlining how families, school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved academic achievement. The compact will:

- Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction.
- Describe ways parents can support their child's learning.
- Describe the importance of ongoing communication between teachers and families.

The compact will be reviewed annually and discussed during parent-teacher conferences.

Evaluation of the Policy

Each year, Lincoln Elementary School will evaluate the effectiveness of this policy and its parent and family engagement activities by:

- Collecting parent feedback through surveys and meetings.
- Reviewing participation data.
- Identifying barriers to participation.
- Revising programs and activities based on parent input and student needs.

The results of the evaluation will be used to improve family engagement practices and support student achievement.

Adoption

This School, Parent, and Family Engagement Policy has been jointly developed with and agreed upon by parents and school personnel.