



Parental Involvement for Elkmont Elementary School

To ensure effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Elkmont Elementary School:

(1) shall provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;

Parent Nights will be arranged during the school year. These nights are developed by the teachers and the Title I committee to present the specific information that will help parents reinforce subject area strategies in the home environment. Title I monies will be used to provide parents with useful materials that they can take with them and use all year to assist with the academic reinforcements that are needed. In the past, we have organized a parent conference night called Family Curriculum Night. The Family Night was held in the winter and opened with a general session full of energy. Attending students and parents were provided age-appropriate, engaging activities designed to spark interest and create fun opportunities to explore learning.

Translation services are always provided for families in need of services. Surveys and questionnaires are provided at different times during the year to obtain information from parents and reflect on the progress that is being made in accomplishing the school-wide goals. Many of these surveys provide open-ended responses used as a vehicle for parents to voice opinions and make suggestions. This information is used by the Title I Committee and administration at Elkmont Elementary to make the arrangements that are necessary in order to provide parents with the resources needed to ensure their child's success. As input and feedback are provided, it also allows committees to make the needed changes and/or additions to the action plans that are used as the stepping stones in achieving our school-wide goals. Parents are always offered the opportunity to voice questions and concerns at the meetings as well.

It is also the policy of the school administration that we provide an "open-door" policy to our parents to discuss issues that concern their children at any time during the day. If the administration is unavailable, a meeting with parents will be scheduled as soon as possible. These surveys can be taken in the family's home language.

On-demand translation services are available at any time a parent comes to school or contacts the school for a need and/or conference. Additionally, all communications sent through the school can be translated. This includes our weekly newsletters (Spanish version is always available.), Remind group text messages (Spanish group is available to appropriate guardians), and emails sent from the school.

(2) shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;

In the past, Elkmont Elementary has provided a Curriculum Night at the beginning of the school year for parents to become familiar with the state and county curriculum, including the College- and Career-Ready Standards and assessment procedures specific to their child's grade level. In the past, two parent nights were arranged during the year. These nights were developed by the teachers and the Title I Committee to present the specific information that helped parents reinforce subject area strategies in the home environment. If needed, interpreters were available if requested. Title I funds were used to provide parents with useful materials that they can take with them and use all year to assist with the academic reinforcements that are needed at home. The staff also prepared a "Test Score Analysis" presentation to assist parents with the interpretation of test score data from Scantron Performance Series and DIBELS; Spanish versions of these reports were given to the appropriate EL students.

This year, reports will also be sent for Star Reading and Math assessments. Parent information letters were and will be sent home this year with individual student reports. Sessions will also be available throughout the year for interpretation of the Alabama Alternate Assessment, ACCESS, and Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program (ACAP). Parents can monitor their child's academic progress through report cards, progress reports, the use of PowerSchool Parent Portal, and teacher communication. Additionally, we will provide sessions for parents on assessments to help them better understand the purpose and how to use the scores to better help their child at home.

(3) shall educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;

Elkmont Elementary School Title I Leadership Team, which includes parents, will seek ways to improve parent involvement in the school environment. The team of

parents and teachers will be unique in that they will take an active role in the academic process as they work closely to "educate" other parents on the goals of the school as well as the instructional programs, strategies, and assessments that are used to guide student learning. Specific parent nights and/or meetings will be conducted throughout the year to work with parents in small group settings to allow them to experience the learning process, strategies, and assessments that are reflected in the classroom setting.

Elkmont Elementary will jointly develop with parents of all children served a School-Parent Compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact will also reflect the mission of the school as well as the goals that are developed each year through the Title I Committee. There will be a specified section on the compact that will allow for parent input. The compact will be disseminated in Spanish to appropriate students. Grade levels have also created social media pages to share photos, newsletters, and other important information with parents. These social media pages also connect Elkmont Elementary to the Elkmont community.

(4) shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;

The implementation of parent involvement programs and activities will be a primary focus of the Elkmont Elementary School Title I Leadership Team, which includes parents. The team will seek ways to improve parent involvement in the school environment. The team of parents and teachers will be unique in that they will take an active role in the academic process as they work closely to "educate" other parents on the goals of the school as well as the instructional programs, strategies, and assessments that are used to guide student learning. Specific parent nights and/or meetings will be conducted throughout the year to work with parents in small group settings to allow them to experience the learning process, strategies, and assessments that are reflected in the classroom setting.

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Our school media center serves as a resource for the community. Also, a list of community resources is sent in the bi-weekly parent newsletter. Community members are welcome to use the center whenever needed. Also, parents are allowed to enjoy lunch with their children and participate in our school lunch program. In addition, parents of Pre-K students will be able to earn volunteer hours as required for engaging in activities with their children.

(5) shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;

Elkmont Elementary will offer meetings for parents as early as 7:00 a.m. and as late as 7:00 p.m. to afford parents the opportunity to attend according to their home and work schedules. These meetings will be promoted through personal letters, telephone calls, news media, flyers, website, SchoolMessenger, and social media, etc. Efforts shall be made to inform all parents of participating children. The classroom teacher will provide information from the meeting to those parents who were not in attendance. This information will be disseminated by way of letters, web page, screencasts, and social media. A translator and/or our itinerant EL teacher will be provided for parents who are non-English speaking. Elkmont Elementary also uses a phone translation service to translate for parent phone calls.

(6) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

Elkmont Elementary will provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities as the parents' request. EES has chosen to use the Title I Leadership Team and other stakeholders such as parents and community members to determine the needs of the school and to ensure that the Title I funds are spent appropriately to address these needs. These teams and committees also develop goals and action plans, review and monitor the activity and program implementation, and analyze data obtained from a variety of sources (surveys and test scores, etc.). Goals are developed to ensure that strategies are in place to improve the instructional process within the school. This plan also serves as the Cognia Continuous Improvement Plan as it outlines the needs of the school based on a variety of assessments and surveys and will provide detailed goals and action steps that will be taken by the faculty and staff at Elkmont Elementary in order to address these needs. A comprehensive budget has also been developed to ensure appropriate spending of federal dollars to meet the needs of the school. All students are eligible to receive these services. By offering this opportunity of in-depth academic support, more students will benefit, and the scores on our standardized assessments will increase.