R.W. Combs Elementary

*“The students of R.W. Combs Elementary will achieve their maximum potential in a S.A.F.E. learning environment.”*



9165 Highway 15 South

Happy, KY 41746

Phone (606) 476-2518

Fax (606) 476-8502

**PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

**2023-2024**

**DEFINITION OF PARENT:**

The legal definition of a “parent” is a parent, step-parent, or foster parent of a student or a person who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order and with who the students resides.

**COMMITMENTS**

We commit to:

1. Sharing clear information about each student’s progress with parents.
2. Offering practical suggestions to parents on how they can support student learning at home.
3. Making representative parents and members of the community full partners in our decision-making.
4. Facilitating the involvement of our parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.
5. Seeking and supporting adult volunteers to work with and inspire our students, as well as making every effort when legally appropriate to accommodate the involvement of adults other than parents who are already involved in a student’s life.

We will honor these commitments through a school-parent compact. During an annual meeting with parents, we will review the compact with parents, ask for input and then revise, if necessary, the compact.

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**SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT:**

Our student’s parents, families, extended families, students themselves, as well as our local community are all considered partners who share responsibilities for high student academic achievement. Following are the responsibilities for the school, the parents, and the students:

 **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Robert W. Combs will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in an effective, supportive, and safe learning environment that enables the students to meet Kentucky’s academic standards.
2. Provide information on the content students will learn each year through the methods listed in our Curriculum Policy.
3. Assign homework in accordance with our Homework Policy.
4. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child’s progress. Specifically we will provide formal reports every 3 weeks through midterms and report cards.
5. Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual student’s achievement. Opportunities (where appropriate) will be provided for the student to participate actively in sharing information on his or her progress with his or her parents during these conferences.
6. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. The email addresses and telephone extensions of their child’s teachers are provided on the school website to promote communication. Staff will always be available to parents by appointment for face-to-face conferences during teacher planning period or after school. Teachers will also be available through social media platforms (ie. Facebook, Messenger, Remind. Class Dojo, etc…)
7. Send home newsletters that include information on ways families can help students learn along with important information regarding events going on at school. A final copy of this policy will be sent home with students in the back to school packet.

All students at R.W. Combs are English-speaking students. Most students live within a few miles of the school, and are raised in the surrounding mountains. All parents have high hopes for their children and want them to succeed in school.

The Parent Involvement Policy was developed jointly and agreed upon by the parents of participating Title 1 students and staff of the school. This year’s Parent Involvement Policy will be available for review by parents at the Back-to-School Bash on August 21, 2023 from 5:00-7:00. An online version of the policy will be available through the school’s Facebook page. We encourage parents to make suggestions for changes by August29, 2023. There is a back sheet to write the suggestions down in person or you can email suggestions to Melinda.Bush@perry.kyschools.us or megan.watts2@perry.kyschools.us .

**BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOLS:**

Each month the school will have an open SBDM meeting to discuss the family involvement through our resource center director. The meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm. An annual meeting will be held at a convenient time to inform parents of the school’s participation in Title 1 and what this means for them. Also, meetings are held after every major assessment including KSA (when scores are available), universal screeners, and Brigance to discuss school results. Parents will be involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way to assist in planning, reviewing, and offering suggestions on parental involvement policy. After final review by parents of the policy, a revised policy will be provided to all parents.

**TEACHER/PARENT COMMUNICAITON:**

The school encourages parents to contact teachers through email, telephone calls, and conferences. If you need to set up a conference time, feel free to call the school and set up an appointment. During these conferences, parents and teachers can discuss the programs their student(s) are involved in during school. Parents will be informed that the Title 1 program has a monthly newsletter developed by the FRYSC. Parents can see the results of the K (fall), Brigance (late summer), and Universal screener testing (fall, winter, spring) when results become available. Each child has an individual assessment result that will show the parent where their child is in regard to meeting the learning goals/academic expectation. The teacher will interpret the results for the parent, and explain the curriculum to help each child achieve their goals. The parent and teacher together will offer suggestions, share experiences and make decisions on how to help the child reach their highest potential. This communication may take place during open house, PCLP meetings, open house, and individual parent conferences.

**LEARNING COMPACT:**

The learning compact was developed by school personnel with parent input and sent home at the beginning of the year for all stakeholders to sign (principal, teacher, student, and parent). The compact describes how the parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improving student achievement, and will build and develop a partnership to achieve Kentucky’s high standards.

The compact provides the following:

1. A description of the school’s responsibility to provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet performance standards.
2. A description of the ways in which parents will be responsible for supporting their child’s learning such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, volunteering in the classroom and participation in decisions related to their child’s education
3. A description of the importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers by at least one annual parent /teacher conference.

**PROVIDING INFORMATION AND TRAINING TO PARENTS AND SCHOOL STAFF:**

R.W. Combs will have plenty of opportunities for parents to get involved in the school. Here are a few.

* Back to School Bash
* Reading Night
* Christmas Program
* Open House
* Pre-School Open House at Back to School Bash
* Online and In Person Book Fairs
* Family Resource Center
* Newsletters
* Parent/Teacher Conferences
* School Website
* Emails
* School Messenger
* Parent Portal
* Social Media
* Remind APP
* Class DoJo
* Google Classrooms