

Title I School Parent Involvement Policy Franklin Elementary

The staff at Franklin Elementary recognizes that parent involvement increases the opportunities of student success. Therefore, the staff welcomes and encourages the participation of parents in their child's education to enhance this success. It is our policy to foster and maintain ongoing communications with parents concerning opportunities to become involved, the eligibility for special programs, and their child's educational progress. It is also our policy to provide information to parents that is understandable including materials translated into their primary language upon request.

In order to build an effective partnership with parents, the staff at Franklin Elementary along with Title I parents have developed the following parent involvement policy:

Communication:

Ongoing communication that provides information about Franklin's curriculum, state and local assessments, the measurement of individual progress, the Intervention program and how students are selected for Intervention services will be provided to parents through:

- 📖 Back to School Night/Open house
- 📖 Classroom newsletters
- 📖 Home, phone, or letter conferencing
- 📖 Meetings held at various times to include topics such as educational websites, motivating students to read, educational games, etc.
- 📖 PTA meetings
- 📖 The Franklin Focus, our monthly newsletter, to inform parents of events, reading strategies, and Reading Olympic results
- 📖 Parent-Teacher conferences held in November and February or upon request
- 📖 Personal contact by phone or letter
- 📖 Progress reports distributed to students in third through fifth grade
- 📖 Report cards distributed to students in first through fifth grade
- 📖 Quarterly progress reports distributed with report cards to intervention students
- 📖 School handbook
- 📖 Communication by classroom teacher on a regular basis
- 📖 Websites

In November a conference will be held with each parent to discuss the progress of their child, individual student assessments, proficiency level as well as the expectations of individual's grade level, and other concerns of parents and teachers. The School-Parent Compact was designed by Franklin staff and parents to outline how responsibility for learning will be shared. The compact will be reviewed annually and updated as needed. Additional scheduled conferences will be held with parents of students who continue to struggle.

Opportunities for Involvement/Volunteering

Parents will be encouraged to participate in school events and volunteer in activities such as:

- 📖 Classroom visitations and observations;
- 📖 Family Resource Center projects/ Family Resource Library;
- 📖 Participation in School wide Improvement Plan Committee;
- 📖 Reading to small groups or individual students;
- 📖 PTA meetings and activities;
- 📖 School assemblies;
- 📖 Student programs and projects such as Fall Fest (October 25, 2013), and Prime Time Night, (Date to be announced);
- 📖 Parent Literacy Nights involving pre-kindergarten through first grade students and parents will be held on the following dates: **September 10, 2013; October 1, 2013; October 22, 2013; November 12, 2013; and December 3, 2013.**
- 📖 Open House where they will be given the opportunity to become familiar with intervention programs used by students;
- 📖 National Reading Month sponsored by Keystone State Reading Association during the month of April; and
- 📖 Summer calendar of activities and promotional summer reading programs in the Pottstown area.

Surveys of parent activities will be conducted to collect opinions, concerns and suggestions will be used to improve activities and develop topics for meetings that meet the needs of parents. The results will also be used when planning the Intervention Program for the next year.

Parent Training and Support

The following opportunities and materials will be offered to help provide parents with techniques and strategies they may use to improve their child's academic success and assist their child in learning at home:

- 📖 Include suggestions in Franklin Focus as to ways to work with your child, interesting books to read, games, websites, articles of interest, educational gifts.
- 📖 Information on the Pennsylvania Parent Information Center and trainings and workshops available to parents upon request

Child care will be provided during workshops.

Community Outreach/Collaboration

The staff and families at Franklin Elementary school will seek ideas and suggestions with community-based organizations and will coordinate parent involvement opportunities with such programs.

- 📖 Pottstown DARE officer will teach fifth grade students to abstain from taking drugs and maintaining healthy bodies.
- 📖 Selected Intervention students will present a Reader's Theater to preschool children at HEN's preschool and revisit with them as they tour Franklin Elementary in the spring.
- 📖 Golden Sage/Foster Grandparent volunteers will work with students at Franklin

School Decision Making/Advocacy

Parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of school programs by participating in the following committees:

- 📖 Friends of Franklin (formally known as PTA)
- 📖 Schoolwide Title I Planning Committee