

Sharon School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
2023-2024

General

This school parent and family engagement plan has been jointly developed and agreed upon with parents and school staff. The policy will be reviewed and revised at a minimum of every two years to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. The policy will be distributed to parents at the beginning of each school year.

Parental Comments

Comments of parents expressing dissatisfaction with the plan will be noted and revisions made, as necessary, upon review.

Policy Involvement

An annual Open House for all parents is held each fall. All parents are invited (i.e., personal invitation) and encouraged to attend. This policy, legal requirements, and the parents' rights to be involved are explained at this meeting. Our plans for communication (i.e., purple folders, agendas, and school website) are also explained. In addition to the Open House, a flexible number of meetings for parents are held as needed throughout the school year. Additional times are available to schedule before/after school and during planning periods.

Parents are involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning review and improvement of the school wide Title I Program, including the school parent and family engagement plan, through such means as conferences, meetings, written/oral communications, and parent surveys.

Through such means as the Open House, Parent Teacher Conferences, written/oral communications, local newspaper articles, formal and informal contacts, local report cards, state report cards, parents are provided the following:

- timely information about our Title I Program
- information about and interpretation of the school's and child's performance.
- a description and explanation of the curriculum, assessment measures and expected proficiency levels for students,
- opportunities for sharing experiences, offering suggestions, and, as appropriate, participating in making decisions that are related to the education of their children
- parents are provided timely responses to their suggestions.

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Performance

Sharon School has jointly developed with parents a Student - Parent - School Compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students share the responsibility for improved student 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 describes the schools' responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables children to meet the State's student performance standards and describes the ways in which each parent will be responsible for their child's learning. The compact also stresses the importance of consistent school attendance and that everyone can partner together to decrease chronic absenteeism.

The importance of communication between teachers and parents on a regular basis is stressed in the compact. Parents are encouraged to attend parent-teacher conferences, during which the compact will be discussed as it relates to each child's achievement. This also allows teachers an opportunity to discuss, in person, the child's progress. At Sharon School, parents are given reasonable access to staff.

Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure the effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community, Sharon School:

- provides assistance to parents in understanding the Nation Education Goals, the State's curriculum standards and student performance indicators, the State Plan, State and local assessments, parent, and family engagement requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress. Sharon School also enables families to work with educators to improve the performance of their child, as well as provide information on how they can participate in decision making to improve the education of their child.
- educate teachers, the principal and other staff on how to assist families in knowing the value of their contributions, as well as how to engage those families communicate with and work as equal partner, implement, and coordinate family programs, and build ties between home and school.
- develops appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in family engagement activities and encourage partnerships between schools and local business that include roles for parents.
- conducts other activities, as appropriate and feasible, that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their children
- ensures, to the extent possible, that information related to school and family programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the homes of participating children in a language that is easily understood.
- provides other reasonable support for family engagement activities as requested.

Accessibility

In carrying out parental involvement requirements, Sharon School, to the extent practicable, provides full opportunities for the participation of families with limited English proficiency or with disabilities, including providing information and school profiles in a comprehensive language and form.

Incorporating New Standards

We recognize and will implement the new standards as set forth by the State Board of Education for parental involvement.

- Sharon School welcomes all families into the school community.
- Sharon School communicates effectively.
- Sharon School encourages and supports student success.
- Sharon School encourages parents to be advocates for all children.
- Sharon School works jointly with stakeholders concerning educational decisions.
- Sharon School works collaboratively with the community.