

South Dodge Elementary School
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PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

(2018-2019) School Parental Involvement Policy

Revised: (May 30, 2018)

South Dodge Elementary School District/LEA: Dodge County School System

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents, that contains information required by section 1118 (b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The school will adhere to the following as required by law:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and Improving the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114 (b) (2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parental involvement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114 (b) (2) of the ESEA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- (C) That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- (D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOLWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The South Dodge Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parental involvement will be used.

We notify the parents of meeting in spring of each year of feedback meeting to plan the upcoming year. We make changes to the school Parent and Family Engagment Policy and School improvement policy. We also update and make changes to the School compact for the upcoming year. We discuss the uses of the Title I funds and how they are spent. We also have an Annual meeting in the fall of each year in which the Title I funds are decided on how to spend and discuss again the School Parent Policy and School Improvement Policy. We notify the Parents by letter to parent, school website, facebook, article in local newspaper (Dodge County News), remind 101, Morning announcements, and the marquee at SDES of news. We also have parents to complete surveys in the spring of each year. The results of the survey and incorporated into the schoolwide improvement project, Parent involvement policy, and parents receive a copy at annual meeting. A sign in sheet, agenda, and minutes will be kept by the Title I Coordinator at SDES as evidence of the meeting.

2. The South Dodge Elementary will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Our Title I annual meeting is held at the South Dodge Elementary lunchroom in the fall of each year. We notify the parents by letters sent home by students, SDES website, Marquee, Local newspaper (Dodge County News), one call system, and remind 101.

3. The **South Dodge Elementary** will take the following actions to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

We survey our parents to find the best time for meetings to be held for maximum participation. We also send information home to parents and have information on our school website.

4. The **South Dodge Elementary** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs.
- Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

We provide information for parents and guardians by website, marquee, and give to students to take home in red folders and agendas.

5. The **South Dodge Elementary** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children 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.

We have an input meeting in the spring to discuss changes and additions to the school compact for the upcoming year. All parents are invited to attend. Teachers also have input in the compact as well when developing. The Dodge County School System has parent surveys that are sent to all parents/families. The results of the survey are used to develop the Title I parent policy and schoolwide plan for the next year.

A parent meeting is held to present a School-Parent Compact and input from parents is solicited at the parent meeting.

A sign in sheet, agenda and minutes will be kept by the Title I Coordinator at SDES as evidence of meeting(s).

6. The **South Dodge Elementary** will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below.

- Our community offers reading buddies to our students and a tutor for students.
- We also have our parents to come in to classes and read to students.
- We invite parents and grandparents always to visit our school.

A. The **South Dodge Elementary** will provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- The State's academic content standards.
- The State's student academic achievement standards.
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments.
- The requirements of Part A.
- How to monitor their child's progress.
- How to work with educators.

The parental education/involvement activities scheduled (tentatively) for this coming year are events that have been successfully attended previously, in addition to some new opportunities. These events include: Title I Parent Night, Title I Planning Meetings; Open House; transition to Kindergarten and Middle School preparation events; Preparing for Standardized Testing; Rising 6th Grade Parent Meeting; Art Show, and Rockin' Rhythm Band; how to support their students with homework and developing study skills Parent Meeting.

Workshops will be held throughout the year for parents in conjunction with the school system.

Monthly updates about individual student growth, achievement, and behavior notifications will be sent home in red folders. Parent conferences will be held throughout the year. In addition to scheduled parent conferences, teachers maintain contact with parents by phone and email. Conference times are offered at flexible hours to accommodate parent schedules. Informational materials, including developmental, health, college/career, and study skill materials, are available in our family resource center.

B. The **South Dodge Elementary** will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:

Offering curriculum parent meetings explaining for each content area that focus on DAP, GRASP, and Ga. Milestones; test data is explained to parents at conferences and at various meetings as necessary when data is available. Letters are also provided to parents to explain how to interpret the test results.

- C. The South Dodge Elementary will provide training to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school by:

Providing professional learning sessions for teachers and staff on the importance of communicating with parents about positive behaviors and advancements in achievement, along with keeping parents informed when their students are struggling or having behavior difficulties.

- D. The South Dodge Elementary will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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 by:

Hosting the 21st Century After-School Program and referring struggling students to the program,

Posting the information for parents on Website, Morning Announcement, Marquee, and sent home information to parents as needed.

- E. The South Dodge Elementary will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

South Dodge Elementary School will utilize a variety of resources to communicate to parents:

Invitations to parent activities will posted on the SDES website

Parent link will be utilized to deliver personalized messages and notification of meetings and parent activities

Flyers inviting parents to activities will be sent home in red folders; flyers will be distributed in Spanish when feasible and appropriate

Student agendas will be used to record upcoming events; all students at SDES use agendas, and teachers, as well as parents, use this vital tool for communication on a regular basis. Agendas contain homework information, upcoming test dates, and teacher comments. South Dodge School is highly receptive to parental input and welcomes any suggestions from parents

Red Folders are sent home daily for lower grades and Agendas are used to write in for upper grades and utilized to communicate with parents about what students are learning and their learning progress, to inform parents of upcoming events, opportunities for learning support, and district and community services and activities; Red folders are utilized to share information on topics such as how to play a role in their child's success in school and other topics related to supporting SDES parents and promoting their children's achievement.

The SDES Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Schoolwide Plan will be posted on the school website and will be available in the school lobby of SDES.

- F. The South Dodge Elementary will provide other reasonable support for parental and family engagement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request by:
- Offering parent meetings will be offered more than once and at different times of the day to increase the involvement from parents in the SDES community.
 - Offering Parent meeting on the Title I services, Parent Involvement Budget, strategies to improve vocabulary, utilizing technology to support student achievement, and how to support their students with homework and developing study skills for SDES.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- X In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school;

- To maximize parental involvement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establish a schoolwide Parent Advisory Council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.

AT SDES, parent meetings will be offered more than once and at different times of the day to increase the engagement from parents in the SDES community; if a parent is unable to come to the building for a conference, the teacher of record may conduct a meeting over the phone.