

Harlan Elementary School

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

(Adopted by the Harlan Elementary School Council, May 12, 1997; Amended April 23, 2012)

Expectations for Parent Involvement

The Harlan Elementary School has adopted the following parent involvement policy and plan. This policy and the plan to implement it have been developed jointly and in agreement with, and will be distributed to, the parents of students participating in the Title I program.

All comments indicating parents' dissatisfaction with the district Title I plan shall be collected and submitted along with the plan to the Kentucky Department of Education.

The Harlan Elementary School shall convene an annual meeting, at a time that is convenient for parents, to which all parents of students participating in the Title I program are invited and encouraged to attend. At this meeting parents will be informed of their child's participation in Title I, the purpose and requirements of Title I, and their right to be involved. Particular attention shall be given to reaching those parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.

The Harlan Elementary School shall offer a flexible number of meetings (a.m. and p.m.) to parents, and may provide transportation, childcare, and home visits.

The Harlan Elementary School shall involve parents in an organized, on-going, and timely manner, in the Title I planning, review, and improvement of programs, including the joint development of the school parent involvement policy and the school plan.

Parents of students participating in Title I shall be provided:

- ✚ opportunities to volunteer and become involved at school
- ✚ school progress reports and their child's individual assessment results, including an interpretation of results
- ✚ a description and explanation of the school curriculum, assessment, and proficiency levels
- ✚ a timely response to any parent suggestions
- ✚ receive a school handbook which includes Title I information.

Shared Responsibility for High Student Performance

The Harlan Elementary School has jointly developed with parents, for all students participating in the Title I program, a parent-school learn compact that describes:

- ✚ the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that will enable students to meet the state's

academic expectations

- # ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting his/her child's learning
- # the ongoing communication between parents and teachers through: parent/teacher conferences at which time the learning compact will be discussed; progress reports to parents; and reasonable access to staff, observation of classroom activities, and opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class.

Building Capacity for Involvement

The Harlan Elementary School shall strive to build the capacity for strong parent involvement by:

- # communicating and working with parents as equal partners
- # providing assistance to participating parents in understanding national, state, and local goals, standards, and assessments, Title I, Part A requirements, and how to monitor their child's performance as well as information on how parents can participate in the education of their child
- # providing referral for training to parents such as needed literacy training not otherwise available to help parents improve their child's achievement;
- # educating all school staff, with assistance of parents, on how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents
- # coordinating and integrating, as appropriate, parent involvement programs/activities with public preschool and other district programs
- # ensuring, to the extent possible, information sent home is in a language and form parents can understand (For parents whose English is a second language, provide information in their primary language. For parents who are visually impaired, provide information in Braille or in large print.)
- # provides other assistance, as appropriate, such as parent resource centers where parents can learn about child development and rearing from birth, designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child;
- # developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses and encouraging partnerships with elementary, middle, and secondary schools.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING COMPACTS

(Approved by the school Council, April 23, 2012)

It is our mission to work together as partners with parents and students so that students will receive the maximum benefit from their school experience. The Harlan Elementary School Council adopted these "compacts" which outline the responsibilities of each partner:

PARENTS TO CHILD/SCHOOL COMPACT

As a parent/guardian, I will strive to:

- # See that my child attends school every day on time.
- # Support my child by having a positive attitude towards his/her education.
- # Encourage my child to complete the assigned homework and provide help if he/she needs it.

- ✚ Provide a scheduled time and quiet place for my child to study.
- ✚ Encourage my child's curiosity about learning.
- ✚ Become more involved in my child's education.
- ✚ Establish good communication with my child's teacher, principal, and other school personnel.
- ✚ Attend parent/teacher conferences.
- ✚ Talk with my child about his/her school activities each day.
- ✚ Encourage my child to apply at home what he/she is learning at school.

I, _____, agree to try to do my best to accomplish these important measures this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

SCHOOL TO PARENT/CHILD COMPACT

We the faculty of Harlan Elementary School agree that as parents/guardians are the most important educators of their children, a quality educational program must work in partnership with parents to ensure that children get the most from their school experience and environment. We believe that parent involvement is the single most important factor in a child's success and must be actively cultivated. With these basic understandings and appreciations we will strive to do the following:

- ✚ We will hold high expectations for all students.
- ✚ We will show the respect to students and parents that we would like them to show us.
- ✚ We will provide a challenging curriculum and high quality instruction using varied teaching methods to meet the needs of all students.
- ✚ We will be accessible to parents.
- ✚ We will provide parents opportunities to confer with teachers, to visit their child's classroom, and to serve as a school volunteer.
- ✚ We will provide the necessary assistance to parents so that they can insure their child does his/her assigned homework.
- ✚ We will communicate regularly with parents about student progress.

The staff of Harlan Elementary School hereby join in this proclamation to enhance and support parent involvement for a true partnership to benefit the children of our school.

I, _____, declare my support, this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

CHILD TO PARENT/SCHOOL COMPACT

As a Harlan Elementary School student, I will try to be the best student I can be. I will work hard every day to learn new things. I will show respect to my teachers and fellow students.

_____, Signed this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.