

MEAUX

Elementary



United We Learn

**PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK
2022-2023**

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year at Meaux Elementary!

The faculty and staff of Meaux Elementary are committed to providing your child with a quality education in a wholesome learning environment which includes experiences that will help develop students academically, socially, and emotionally. We are indeed proud of our school and are interested in the well-being of each student.

Parents play a vital role as partners in the educational process. Close working relationships among teachers, parents, administration, and students are essential in providing the best possible instructional program. I encourage your continued support in helping to instill in our students a respect for the dignity and worth of each individual, promoting regular attendance at school, encouraging independence, and providing maximum opportunities for learning.

I welcome you to our school community and look forward to working with you. Certain administrative procedures are necessary in the realization of the rights and responsibilities of our students. It is our belief that parents and students should be knowledgeable of the policies and procedures of Meaux Elementary. This handbook contains information to help acquaint parents and students with Meaux Elementary and Vermilion Parish School Board policy. Please read and discuss the information in this handbook with your child. Keep it handy for future reference. If I can be of any assistance to you or your child during the school year, please contact me.

By working together we can ensure that your child has a successful school year.

Sincerely,

Dawn Amy, Principal
Meaux Elementary

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MISSION STATEMENT

The staff of Meaux Elementary School is committed to creating a supportive, risk-free environment that empowers learners with knowledge, confidence, and respect for individual differences.

PHILOSOPHY

Skills learned by students at Meaux Elementary are viewed as the foundation to build upon in their school years and throughout life. The primary reason for the school's existence is the education of students as future contributors to society.

The faculty of Meaux Elementary believes that this institution's efforts are to be directed toward building:

- A learning environment which insures that students develop intellectually, personally, physically, socially and morally into worthwhile members of society;
- A solid foundation of academic skills;
- A positive self-concept;
- A strong value system stressing the ideas of human rights and responsibilities of a democratic society;
- Good health habits;
- Recognition of individual differences;
- An awareness and appreciation of cultural differences which exist in our community;
- An understanding of the needs of students receiving special services; and
- Opportunities for the development of appropriate use of leisure time.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Dawn Amy, Principal

Chantay Abshire, Assistant Principal

School Address:	12419 La. Hwy. 696 Abbeville, LA 70510
Office Phone:	(337) 893-3901
Fax:	(337) 893-7112
Guidance Counselor Phone:	(337) 898-2143
Cafeteria Manager Phone:	(337) 893-8523
Office Hours:	7:45 a.m. - 3:20 p.m.
Student Hours:	8:10 a.m. - 3:20 p.m.

OFFICE POLICIES

- All visitors must sign-in at the office.
- If a parent needs to speak with his/her child's teacher, the parent must call in advance to set up an appointment time. Parent meetings shall be conducted during non-instructional time. Only emergency calls will be delivered to teachers during class time.
- All school business should be conducted during the office hours of 7:45-3:20.
- All students should know how they will get home in the afternoon (car rider or bus rider). Students should be made aware of any change in their routine prior to sending them to school in the morning. **In the event there is a change, a parent note should be sent to the teacher the morning of the change. Calls from parents requesting a change in the way students are to go home will not be honored.**

FIREARM-FREE ZONE

The 1992 Legislature passed Act 197 that defines a Firearm - Free Zone as an area inclusive of any school campus and within 1,000 feet of any such school campus, and within a school bus. The law provides that students or non-students carrying a firearm in a Firearm - Free Zone is unlawful, and is the intentional possession of any firearm on ones' person, on a school campus, or within 1,000 feet of any school campus or on a school bus.

LOUISIANA SMOKE FREE AIR ACT

Due to the Louisiana Smoke Free Air Act, smoking is prohibited in any school or school campus. This law imposes an absolute ban on smoking anywhere on school property, including outside areas and driveways.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

The school must have a way to contact the parents or nearest relative of each child in case of an emergency. **Parents are to keep the office and teachers informed of current addresses and phone numbers in case of an emergency.**

STUDENT SCHOOL DAY

The student school day begins at 8:10 AM and ends at 3:20 PM. Students arriving after 8:10 must have a parent escort them to the office to sign them in. Parents are not allowed to walk the students to the classroom. Parents who wish to check their child out before the end of the day must do so before 3:00 PM. After this time, teachers are busy with end of the day instructions and students are packing. Phone calls requesting a change in the way a student is to go home will **not** be honored. Students should know how they are to get home each day when they come to school. **Tardies (late to school) and checkouts count against perfect attendance for the year.**

ABSENCES

- Attendance at school every day is vital for the academic success of your child. Please make every effort to ensure your child's attendance at school.
- **Meaux Elementary will follow the VPSB Attendance Policy.** An elementary student can miss no more than 12 school days per year to be eligible for promotion. Exceptions can be made only in the event of extended personal illness as verified by a physician and/or other extenuating circumstances approved by the principal.
- It is important that an excuse be sent to school **within 5 school days** of the child's return to school. **Excuses submitted after 5 days will be considered unexcused and the child will be allowed to make up the work missed.**
- Students will be recognized each 9 weeks for perfect attendance. Awards at the end of the school year will include "Perfect Attendance" (no tardies or checkouts).

ILLNESSES AND ACCIDENTS AT SCHOOL

Any student too sick to be in the classroom will be sent home. Any student who throws up or runs fever at school may not return to school that day and must be fever free and/or not throwing up for 24 hours. The parent or guardian will be called from the office to pick up the student. All emergency contact numbers need to be kept current.

If a student is injured at school, he/she is to report to the teacher on duty, his teacher, or the secretary. If necessary, first aid is administered. Parents are contacted, informed of the accident and given the opportunity to check the injury or pick up the child. In a dire emergency, if parents or persons designated by parents cannot be contacted, every attempt will be made to secure medical services for your child.

MEDICATION

Students are not permitted to bring any type of medication or to take any medication while at school unless a Medical Administration form has been completed by the parent and physician. This form must be signed by the school nurse prior to the parent bringing the medication to school. Please refer to the section regarding medication in the Vermilion Parish Student/Parent Handbook.

LUNCH/ BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Lunchroom regulations are as follows:

- a. We do not encourage students to bring lunch from home unless recommended by a physician.
- b. If a lunch is brought from home, it must be eaten in the cafeteria. Lunches brought from home must consist of a meal, not snack-type foods. If only snacks are brought, the student will be required to get a cafeteria plate.
- c. Milk, water, and 100% fruit juices (**not soft drinks**) are the only beverages, which can be consumed with the lunch. Milk may be purchased in the cafeteria.
- d. Candy is not permitted with the lunch.
- e. Students are expected to observe acceptable table manners at all times.
- f. Loud talking and unacceptable behavior will not be tolerated in the cafeteria.

BUS PERMISSION

Parents **must** send written permission to the teacher if they want their child to ride a bus other than their regular assigned bus. It is the parent's responsibility to call the bus driver to get approval. This must also be approved and signed by the principal. Permission can be denied if the bus is overcrowded or if the child causes discipline problems.

EARLY CHECK-OUT

Only the parent or someone authorized by the parent (name listed on emergency card) is allowed to check out a student. All students must be checked out in the office before leaving campus. **Students cannot be checked out after 3:00.** Your child should not be picked-up early other than for a scheduled doctor's appointment or an emergency. By state law a student must receive a minimum of 360 instructional minutes each day. By picking up your child early for invalid reasons, your child loses valuable instructional time which can impact their academics.

STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

All car riders need to be dropped off in the morning and picked up in the afternoon in the **Car Rider drive**, which is near the covered walk on the east end of the main building. The parking lot in the front of the main building is reserved for bus drop-off and pick-up. If you are dropping off your child in the morning, please plan to arrive between 7:45 A.M. and 8:05 A.M. No child can be dropped off at school before 7:45 A.M. There are no duty teachers until that time. If your child is dropped off after 8:10 A.M., you **MUST** come in with your child and sign him/her in at the office. Your child will be given a tardy slip after the 8:10 A.M. bell.

If your child is to go home in a different way than usual, you **must** send a note to the teacher. Only in emergencies, will the school office relay a phone message regarding a change in pick-up to the child. This practice is encouraged only in emergencies so as not to disrupt instruction.

At the end of the day, parents must remain in their vehicle in the car pick-up line. They will not be allowed to wait in the building or near the entrances to pick-up a child. This leads to confusion and an obstruction of hall traffic.

All drivers are asked to pull up behind the car in front of them leaving no gaps in the line.

All drivers and passengers are reminded that this area is a drug free and cell phone free zone. Smoking and cell phone use are prohibited.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMMUNICATION

THE MES website/Facebook link can be found at <https://mes.vpsb.net/o/mes>

Parents are encouraged to check the website often for news and updates.

Yellow Parent Communicator envelopes which contain student test and office notices are sent home every week on Wednesday. Parents are asked to sign and return the envelope to school the next day. (Grades Pre K and Kindergarten have their own system for informing parents).

Grading periods are nine weeks, with Progress Reports issued during the fifth week of each nine weeks.

Report cards are issued the week following the end of the grading period.

DIBELS Benchmark Assessment results for grades K-3 will be sent home three times per year.

PARENT- TEACHER CONFERENCES

The district has set aside designated Parent/Teacher Conference Days during the school year. Parents are encouraged to meet with teachers on these designated days.

Conferences can be scheduled at any grade level when the need arises. Teachers are available for conferences by appointment before school daily and during their planning time. All conferences should be scheduled ahead of time. Instructional time will not be interrupted for parents to meet with the teacher.

HOMEWORK

Homework is a worthwhile activity aimed at giving a student practice on skills taught in the classroom. Failure to practice skills regularly often results in poor academic performance.

Recognizing the importance of homework, teachers initiate assignments as extensions of class work.

- a. When homework is assigned, students are expected to complete the assignment. Failure to do so will affect the rate at which a child progresses.
- b. Parents should remind children to complete their homework assignments daily.

If your child is absent from school for more than one day and you would like to pick up homework, call the office before 10:00 A.M. This will allow the teacher time to gather homework for your child. Teachers will send homework to the office and parents can pick it up after 2:00 P.M. Teachers spend valuable time gathering this work for your child. Please be respectful of their time by picking up these assignments and ensuring that your child completes the work before returning to school.

BOOK SACKS

Rolling book bags are not allowed at Meaux Elementary School.

GRADING SCALE

The grading scale for grades 1-6 will be as follows:

100-93	A
92-85	B
84-75	C
74-67	D
66-0	F

*All .5's shall be rounded up.

PUPIL PROGRESSION PLAN

The VPSB approved Pupil Progression Plan can be accessed electronically on the Vermilion Parish website. This document is the guide used to determine promotion and retention of all students.

ACADEMIC AWARD GUIDELINES

Grades 1-8

9-Weeks Recognition

Each 9-weeks schools may recognize academic achievement based on the following GPA guidelines: GPAs are NOT rounded up:

- Principal's List 4.0 Lowest Grade A
- AB Honor Roll 3.5-3.999 Lowest Grade B
- Honor Roll 3.0-3.999 Lowest Grade C

1-8 End of Year Awards Ceremonies

- Student earn EOY GPA awards
- Schools recognize academic achievement based on the following GPA guidelines:
GPAs are NOT rounded up:
 - 4.0
 - 3.5-3.999
 - 3.0-3.499

- 4th 9-weeks is included in determination

Cumulative GPA is used. NOT Final GPA.

CLASSROOM PARTIES

Students and teachers are allowed class time for Christmas and Easter parties as per district policy. Date, time and place for the parties are set by the principal. Other holidays may be observed in a small way at the discretion of the teacher--- for example, Valentine's Day - exchange of cards with candy.

Birthdays can be celebrated at school with prior approval of the teacher. Treats can be sent to the office on the morning of the event for teachers to distribute in the afternoon. This cannot be done during instructional time.

FIRE DRILLS /TORNADO DRILLS /LOCKDOWNS

In order to prepare students to react in a safe and orderly manner in an emergency, scheduled and unscheduled drills are held periodically throughout the school year.



PBIS is a prevention-oriented way for school personnel to (a) organize evidence-based practices, (b) improve their implementation of those practices, and (c) maximize academic and social behavior outcomes for students. PBIS supports the success of ALL students. It replaces undesired behavior with improved behavior by altering the environment, teaching appropriate skills, and rewarding appropriate behavior. Students practice the rules through explicit instruction, demonstration, and the use of rewards. The rewards are ongoing throughout the year. One reward that students will receive is Jr. Pat Cash. Jr. Pat Cash can be accumulated by students in order to spend on rewards and privileges. School-wide expectations are posted throughout the school and are taught to all students at the beginning of the school year and revisited during the year as needed

The school-wide expectations at Meaux Elementary are:

We have a **P**ositive Attitude

We are **A**lways Respectful

We **T**ake Responsibility

We put **S**afety First

<u>Expectation</u>	<u>Cafeteria</u>	<u>Hall/ Sidewalk</u>	<u>Playground</u>	<u>Gym</u>	<u>Classroom</u>	<u>Restroom</u>	<u>Bus</u>
Positive Attitude	Use good manners	Face forward Use kind words and actions	Keep area clean	Quietly enter and leave area	Always do your best	Keep area clean	Use kind words and actions
Always respectful	Whisper Keep your hands and feet to yourself	Allow adult passage	Share equipment	Use Zero voice	Use kind words and actions	Keep hands and feet to yourself	Use patience when boarding and exiting
Take Responsibility	Keep area clean	Use zero voice	Freeze when bell rings; Walk to assigned area at sound of whistle	Remain seated in assigned area; All items remain in book sacks at dismissal	Always have homework and supplies; Follow dress code policy	Quickly and quietly enter and exit	No eating or drinking
Safety First	Wash hands thoroughly; Quickly and quietly enter and exit	Walk on the right side with arms straight by your side	Play in assigned area	Remain seated in assigned area; Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Wash hands thoroughly	Remain seated in assigned seat; Walk to and from bus

Defining Minor Behavioral Incidents

Behavior Label	Definition
Willful disobedience	Deliberate choice to break a rule or disobey a directive given a person in authority.
Verbal Fighting	Verbal exchange of unkind words
Disrespect	Talking inappropriately / Rude / Arguing with others Negative body language / Inappropriate gestures Name calling Noncompliance with class rules
Disruption	Student engages in low-intensity, but inappropriate behavior
Dress Code	Student is not in compliance with school/ parish dress code
Lying	Student delivers a message that is untrue or deliberately violates rules
Other	Student engages in any other minor behaviors that do not fall within the above categories

Defining Major Behavioral Incidents

Behavior Label	Definition
Willful disobedience	Deliberate choice to break a rule or disobey a directive given a person in authority.
Abusive language/ inappropriate language/ profanity	Verbal messages that include swearing, name calling, or use of words in an inappropriate way
Forgery/ Theft	Student has signed a person's name without that person's permission. Student has removed someone else's property without permission.
Fighting/ Physical Aggression	Actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur (ex: hitting, punching, kicking, etc.)
Cheating	Student copies homework, test answers, etc. from another individual
Harassment/ Teasing/ Bullying	Student delivers disrespectful messages (verbal or gestural) to another person that includes threats and intimidation, obscene gestures, pictures, or written notes.
Property Damage	Student deliberately impairs the usefulness of property
Other	Student engages in any other major behaviors that do not fall within the above categories.

RULES AND PROCEDURES

It is the professional belief of the staff and administration at Meaux Elementary that our discipline policies and school rules will assist in providing a safer, healthier, and happier atmosphere for your child to learn. Our school discipline policy helps prevent and control student behavior problems by coordinating the school's disciplinary procedures and by informing students what types of behaviors are expected of them, and what is forbidden.

Before any teaching or learning can occur, classroom discipline must be established. To be effective, discipline must be consistent from day to day. If students are to cooperate with a discipline code, they must believe they will be treated fairly.

Every teacher is authorized to hold students to a strict accountability for any disorderly conduct in and around the school campus. An effective disciplinary program does not exist only in the classroom; it spreads to all areas of the school program including recess activity, cafeteria habits, and student behavior during assemblies, library period, halls, P.E., music, resource room, restrooms and buses.

Parents and teachers are expected to stress to the students their responsibility regarding school policies. The administration and teachers have the duty of enforcing these rules through a variety of disciplinary measures as outlined in the Discipline Section of the VPSB Policy handbook.

GENERAL SCHOOL RULES

1. Students are expected to exercise due courtesy toward all teachers, school personnel, and fellow students at all times. Disrespect, profanity, dishonesty, disorderly conduct, and disregard for authority will not be tolerated.
2. No student will be allowed in the school building until 7:45 A. M. Upon arriving at school, students are to report cafeteria. Students should not be walking in halls or sidewalks before school.
3. Students are expected to respect all school property (including textbooks and library books) and pay for any losses or damages. Upon payment of loss or damaged books, another book will be issued.
4. Restrooms and drinking facilities should be used during recess time. Once the bell signals the end of recess no student will be permitted to go to the water fountains or to the restroom. The bell signals time to line up at zero voice and proceed to class.
5. Toys and electronic devices are not allowed at school or on the bus. Regarding use and possession of electronic devices, we will follow the Vermilion Parish School Board policy.
6. Playground equipment is to be used properly. Failure to comply may result in the loss of this privilege.
7. Students are not permitted to bring any item that would endanger students.
8. Gum is not allowed on the school campus.
9. No students are allowed in the hallways during recess on a clear day. Nor should they play or congregate in the restrooms.
10. Before school and at recesses, no students are permitted in the classrooms without the company of the teacher.
11. Students should not bring valuable personal belongings to school. We cannot be responsible for their loss.
12. Students who miss their bus in the afternoon must report to the office to call home.
13. Due to safety concerns, students must wear tennis shoes to participate in P.E. Students must wear tennis shoes to school on the day they are scheduled to have P.E. They cannot change shoes.
14. Students are allowed to use the telephone **only** when absolutely necessary.
15. Students are responsible for having all school supplies daily. Without proper tools one cannot complete tasks successfully.
16. Running and loud talking at school will not be tolerated any place other than on the playground.
17. Candy, chips, or other snacks brought from home cannot be eaten until the afternoon recess.

CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE STEPS

Each classroom teacher has a discipline policy in her classroom. The policy is to document behaviors that are not acceptable in the classroom setting and to give appropriate consequences.

SCHOOL-WIDE CONSEQUENCES

- **Minor infraction**---Parent receives a phone call. A form will be sent home to be signed by the parent. The student will receive a consequence. Three minor infractions in a week will result in a major infraction (office referral)
- **Major infraction/Office Referral**---The principal will hold a conference with the student. Parents will be contacted. A consequence will be assigned. Consequences will be determined based on the student's developmental level, past history, as well as the frequency and severity of the inappropriate behavior. Consequences may include, work assignment, denial of privileges or participation in special events, behavior contract, or suspension.
- **SEVERE CLAUSE**---The classroom discipline steps will be eliminated and immediate office assistance required in certain circumstances. This elimination depends on the severity of the student behavior. Please refer to parish handbook. For these severe cases, the decision will be made at the Administrative level as to whether the student has earned an out-of-school suspension.

SCHOOL-WIDE REWARDS

- Jr. Pat Cash is issued by all staff members when they catch a student following school expectations. Jr. Pat Cash can be redeemed for classroom incentives, drawings and/or other planned events/activities throughout the year.
- Students with no major office referrals for each nine weeks will be invited to participate in a special PBIS event following each nine weeks reporting period.

FIELD TRIPS

Fieldtrips at Meaux Elementary are an extension of classroom learning. Each grade level takes an educational field trip as deemed appropriate for the grade level if funds are available. Parent permission and emergency contact information must be provided before a child can go on a field trip.

Any field trip costs must be paid in full by the deadline indicated on the field trip form. Only students in the participating classrooms will be allowed to attend the field trip. **Only in the case of a medical emergency will students be allowed to leave the field trip location with a parent.** Students are expected to follow all school rules and be on their best behavior when on school sponsored field trips. Field trips are a privilege and a child's misbehavior may result in the denial of this privilege. Parents who chaperone on field trips are not allowed to bring younger siblings or other children. Chaperones are there to provide assistance to the teachers and monitor students.

DRESS CODE

The Vermilion Parish School Board has set forth guidelines for Pre-K through 12 grades concerning mandatory uniforms, student dress and appearance. These guidelines will be adhered to. Clothing such as sweaters, coats, jackets, rainwear, and caps should be labeled with your child's full name. Refer to the VPSB policy handbook for details regarding Student Dress Code. **Friday is Meaux Elementary School spirit shirt day. Jeans/any bottoms may be worn on Friday for \$1.00.** Monies generated through this means will support PBIS.

Any clothing or apparel that is unsafe, dangerous, and distracting to the educational process or a health hazard is unacceptable. The final decision as to the appropriateness of attire and appearance will be made by the principal.

The following plan of action will be utilized at Meaux for students who are non-compliant with the School Uniform Policy.

1 st Offense	Written warning/notice
2 nd Offense	Phone call to parent/guardian
3 rd Offense	Principal, parent, student conference

In addition to the Vermilion Parish Uniform policy, Meaux Elementary will enforce the following:

Sweatshirts/Sweaters/Jackets

- Color must be **solid** navy, white, red, gray, or black or the Meaux Elementary Sweatshirt.
- No emblems, monograms, or contrasting stitching are allowed except for logos/emblems approved by the school.

Shoes

- Refer to the VPSB guidelines for details
- All students must wear tennis shoes on days they attend PE.

Hair

- Refer to the VPSB guidelines for details
- Extreme hair styles are prohibited.

SPIRIT DAYS AND OTHER OUT-OF-UNIFORM DRESS

Every Friday students may wear a Meaux Elementary Spirit Shirt with their uniform bottom. Jeans, jean shorts of appropriate length (length of uniform shorts) or any bottom may be worn on Friday for \$1.00 in support of PBIS. Occasionally students will receive out-of-uniform reward days. Students are to wear jeans, jean shorts of appropriate length, or uniform bottoms on these days (unless otherwise noted).

BAND

All 4th grade students will participate in a pre-band program. Each student will be required to purchase a recorder and the methods book. These items will be purchased at school through the band director. During this year of music, the students will learn how to read music and play the recorder. This will prepare them to enter band in 5th grade.

Students in 5th grade will have the opportunity to join band. Each interested student will be tested on the various instruments to determine the one he/she is best suited to play. Parents will receive information about buying the instrument. During band class, the students will be instructed on playing and caring for the instrument. All band students will be given the opportunity to qualify to attend Solo Festival. The students will also have the opportunity to play in concert(s).

- After the first 9 weeks marking period, a student will not be allowed to drop out of band.
- Students are required to play the same instrument throughout the year unless the band director requests that he/she switch.

JR. BETA CLUB

Fifth grade students are eligible for the National Jr. Beta Club. A student must have at least a 3.2 GPA with no grade below a C and no modifications in fourth grade and the first nine weeks of 5th grade to be eligible to join. In order to remain in the Jr. Beta Club, a student must maintain a GPA of 3.2 throughout the year. Conduct does affect membership. If at any time a student receives a U in conduct or two N's

in conduct on their report card, they are no longer in the club. A transfer student who is a member in his/her previous school may have their membership transferred if all requirements are met. Members must pay National Jr. Beta dues of \$15. National dues are not paid again until a member joins the Sr. Beta Club in tenth grade.

4-H CLUB

Any student nine to twelve years of age who is willing to follow the 4-H ideals and standards may join 4-H at the beginning of the school year. Annual dues are \$12.00.

Members may enroll in one or more projects in which they learn by doing the activities in each project book. These experiences are the tools used to help shape the character of 4-H youth.

Various activities occur during the school year which are announced in the monthly 4-H Newsletter.

Officers are selected each year. 4-H members who participated in the most activities the previous year are considered first for an officer position in the club.

Membership requirements are as follows:

1. Attend monthly club meetings
2. Participate in club activities and community service
3. Complete project record book indicating a record of the work done and submit to the 4-H sponsor by the March deadline. All project books must be received by the set deadline for submission at the Parish level for judging. Only students who complete the book and receive a gold or silver ribbon for their work will be allowed to participate in the end of year 4-H field trip. (no exceptions)
4. All members are required to participate in a minimum of 4 activities to include clinics, workshops, or contests throughout the year in which they earn individual and/or club points.

Title I and Family Engagement

School-Level Parental Engagement Policy

2022-2023

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 addresses the education challenges facing high-poverty communities. The federal Title I program was designed to ensure that all students have a fair, equal and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and, at a minimum, reach proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and assessments.

Presently when most people refer to Title I, they are actually talking about Title I, Part A of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). Part A, Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged Program, is one of the most well-known parts of federal education law. Title I funds are targeted to high-poverty schools and districts. Vermilion Parish poverty levels are determined by the percentage of free and reduced lunch students enrolled in a school. A school is eligible to become a school-wide program when the poverty level is at or above 40%. In this type of setting federal, state, and local funds are consolidated to upgrade the entire education program of the school. Title I is integrated into the regular educational program of the school.

To receive Title I funds, districts must submit a plan describing what all children are expected to know, the standards of performance that all students are expected to meet, and ways to measure the school's progress. The Title I school will identify which students are most in need of educational help (students do not have to be from low-income families to receive help), set goals for improvement, measure student performance using standards set forth in the state's Title I plan, develop programs that add to regular classroom instruction, and involve parents in all aspects of the program. Each school's Title I Plan is reviewed each year by administrators, teachers, and parents. If goals have not been met, the plan is revised

School: Meaux Elementary School

Principal: Dawn Amy

Family Engagement Contact Person: Ashley Salande, Counselor

Date of Approval: _____

Date of Evaluation: May 14, 2022

Title I and Family Engagement

School-Level Parental Engagement Policy

2022-2023

Mission Statement

The staff of Meaux Elementary School is committed to creating a supportive, risk-free environment that empowers learners with knowledge, confidence, and respect for individual differences.

Belief Statement

It is believed that only together can parents and teachers provide the best learning situation for each individual child. The home and school must develop a partnership and seek to develop the whole child. Through combined efforts, habits, attitudes, behavior and academic achievement all can be improved. Together we can make learning possible for every child and help each one develop in every way to his/her fullest potential.

Introduction

Educational research has proven that early establishment of positive school behaviors and attitudes are vital to academic success. The basic concept is that there is a close relationship between academic achievement and the student's habits, attitudes and behaviors. Positive student habits and behaviors are conducive to academic achievement and most often foster a happier and more positive attitude toward school.

1. When will our school hold annual meetings? The meetings are to be at convenient times and for the purpose of keeping parents informed about their right to be involved in school planning as well as their child's education process.

- A. Meet and Greet, Open House, Parent Orientation Meetings held at the start of the school session for each grade level
- B. Scheduled Pre-K and Kindergarten Conferences
- C. Parent Conference Day (scheduled by the district)
- D. School Building Level Committee Meetings
- E. RTI Meetings
- F. Other meetings to be held as requested

2. How will we involve a diverse representative sampling of parents in an organized, ongoing way in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs and all other programs beneficial to student support?

- A. Surveys and Questionnaires
- B. PBIS Committee
- C. Monthly newsletters (print and online)
- D. School website
- E. VPSB app

3. How will we offer meetings and trainings to help parents work with their children to improve their children's school achievement?

- A. Materials available through the school counselor
- B. Brochures with Academic Tips
- C. Activities to include parental involvement and support of literacy to include: Read Across America Day, 100th Day of School, Family Literacy Night
- D. Meaux Elementary Newsletter (print and online monthly)
- E. Meaux Elementary School website (<https://mes.vpsb.net/o/mes>)
- F. Vermilion Parish School Board website (<https://www.vpsb.net/>)
- G. Student Progress/Parent Command Center website (<https://vermilion.edgear.net/progress/>)

4. How will we provide parents with our school performance profiles and assessment results including interpretation of the results?

- A. Letter to the parents with results sent home
- B. LEAP individual Student Reports
- C. State Department website
- D. DIBELS/STAR profiles
- E. Website

5. How will we provide parents with a description of the curriculum and the forms of assessment used to measure student progress?

- A. Information from the State Department of Education website
- B. Vermilion Parish Website
- C. Parish generated information to be sent home
- D. Meaux Elementary website
- E. Parent meetings and/or workshops

6. How will we develop a home-school compact that involves the student, teacher, and parent? A plan to evaluate and revise must be included.

- A. Parish initiative through Parent/Student handbook (compact agreement)
- B. Evaluations through questionnaires, personal interviews

7. When and how will we hold parent conferences? NCLB mandates this in the elementary grades.

- A. Parent-teacher conference day on October 14, 2022.
- B. Grades Pre K and Kindergarten Parent-teacher conferences in October, January, and May.
- C. Grades 1-5 throughout the year as requested by parents or teachers, before, during or after school.
- D. Emails and/or phone conferences

8. How can we provide assistance to parents in interpreting and understanding the State Core Standards and benchmarks, the Louisiana Accountability System, and state and local assessments?

- A. Vermilion Parish School website (<https://www.vpsb.net/>)
- B. State Department of Education website (<http://www.doe.state.la.us/ide/index.html>)
- C. Workshops and meetings
- D. Parent friendly brochures

9. How will we frequently report to parents about their child's progress?

- A. Weekly classroom assessment and student progress through parent communicator envelopes
- B. Mid-nine weeks progress reports
- C. Parent Command Center website
- D. Report cards each nine weeks
- E. DIBELS test results three times/year
- E. Phone calls and teacher notes

10. How will we provide opportunities for parents to volunteer on an on-going basis in the school?

- A. Parent Volunteer Letter sent home enabling parents to sign-up to provide assistance in various areas
- B. Announcement/notices sent home when help is needed
- C. Open door policy allowing volunteers throughout the year

11. Describe how resources and services are shared and coordinated among families, schools, and the community to ensure student learning and growth.

- A. PBIS School Committee parent representatives
- B. DARE Program provided through VPSO
- C. Guest Speakers
- D. Field trips
- E. School Community Involvement Activities supporting student learning

12. How can we coordinate and integrate Family Involvement activities with the Pre-K program?

- A. Meetings held throughout the year
- B. LA-4 information sent home to parents/guardians
- C. PreK Parent/Teacher Conferences
- D. Coordination of workshops and home visits with the Pre-Kindergarten Facilitator
- E. Materials available from the district

13. How can we ensure, to the extent possible, that information related to school and parent programs are sent to the home of students in an understandable language and format?

- A. Translations offered upon request
- B. ELL survey to identify families
- C. Materials sent home in the family's native language as requested
- D. Personal contact

This parent involvement policy may be translated at the request of any non-English speaking parent.

14. Describe how parents are involved in the decisions regarding how funds are allotted for parental involvement activities.

- A. Input from members of the PBIS committee which also includes parental participation.
- B. When funds are available, parents are surveyed both formally and informally for input.

15. How do we ensure that our school climate is inviting and welcoming to ALL families?

- A. Warm and friendly greetings when entering the school
- B. Family information bulletin board near the front office
- C. Clean, attractive and clutter-free entrance and waiting area highlighting student, faculty accomplishments
- D. Easy access parking near the front of the school

16. How do we identify and address barriers to family engagement?

- A. Surveys
- B. Evaluations of activities

17. Describe how parents play an active role in school decisions, governance, and advocacy.

- A. Open door policy and surveys
- B. Parent representation on school committees
- C. Surveys

18. How do we recognize and value family members' participation and their diverse contribution to our school?

- A. Meet and Greet and Parent Orientation meetings at the start of school year
- B. Newsletter and/or newspaper spotlight
- C. Volunteer Recognition

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The following persons participated in the development of the Meaux Elementary School Parent Engagement Policy for the 202-2023 school year.

Parents:

Brooke Stelly
Rebecca David

School Personnel:

Nicole Broussard	Teacher
Laura Chapman	Teacher
Christina Russo	Teacher
Ashley Salande	Guidance Counselor
Dawn Amy	Principal
Chantay Abshire	Assistant Principal