

**Stuttgart High School
Parental Involvement Policy
2015-2016**

Stuttgart High School understands the importance of involving parents, and the community as a whole, in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the district and those it serves. Therefore, the district shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement.

Stuttgart High School will use various communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.

- The school will provide parents with information concerning upcoming classroom and school events at least once per semester. SHS will communicate, to the extent practical, in a language that non-English speaking parents can understand.
- The school will utilize the phone/calling system and parent e-mail to contact parents, include information on the school/district website, post notices in school facilities and public buildings, and provide information for local newspapers and radio stations about parent workshops and meetings.
- The school's principal will hold an Annual Report to the Public meeting to give parents a report on the state of the school, to review what students will be learning, how students will be assessed, what parents should expect from their child's education and how a parent can assist and make a difference in his child's education.
- The school will inform parents of tutoring, credit recovery, and summer school opportunities available to help students succeed and assist students in graduating on time.

Stuttgart High School will hold parent meetings and activities throughout the year to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts.

- Stuttgart High School counselors, along with the principal, will plan and organize flexible trainings and other parental involvement activities such as orientation, grade level specific meetings, and financial aid night
- Stuttgart High School will hold two parent/teacher conferences each year. The first will be held during the first quarter of the school year and the second will be held during the third quarter. Parents will participate in the development of AIP's if necessary. Remediation plans will be based on EOC exam results and will identify each student's weaknesses as well as plan for improvement in order to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts.

- The Stuttgart High School multimedia classes will collaborate with the counselors and parent facilitator to produce and update an informational video for parents and new students.
- The Stuttgart School District shall require no fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for teachers designed to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies. No fewer than two (2) hours of professional development for administrators designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies, the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation will be required.
- Stuttgart High School will provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation: role play and demonstration by trained volunteers, the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation, and other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education.
- Stuttgart High School staff will work with students and parents through our CAP program to address career goals, plan coursework, and make informed decisions regarding smart core/core curriculum options. Each spring parents are mailed a letter concerning course offerings, the required 38 units, and information about CAP conferences. Parents and students will meet with an assigned advisor to review the selected curriculum and select courses for the upcoming school year.
- School faculty will provide parents with an overview of the Advanced Placement (AP) and Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) programs available at Stuttgart High School. The purpose will be to relay information such as curriculum requirements, classroom expectations, and benefits of participating in the program. We will also address the connection between our AP/Pre-AP and our gifted and talented program.

Stuttgart High School will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities.

- Parents are encouraged to fill out a parent volunteer survey. Parents will be encouraged to complete the form that asks about hobbies and special interests and lists various volunteer opportunities and time preferences.
- Surveys are housed in the parent facilitator's office and are available to teachers, staff and other volunteers.

Stuttgart High School will work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact.

- School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving 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 academic standards.

Stuttgart High School will provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan.

- Parents and community members will be invited and encouraged to assist school personnel on a variety of committees, such as an Alumni committee, ACSIP committee, and handbook committee to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.

Stuttgart High School will provide resources for parents.

- The school will distribute Informational Packets each year that includes a copy of the school's parental involvement plan, survey for volunteer interests, recommended roles for parents/ teachers/students and school, suggestions of ways parents can become involved in their child's education, parental involvement activities planned for the current school year and information about the system that will be used to allow parents and teachers to communicate.
- To promote and support responsible parenting, the school shall, as funds are available: Purchase parenting books, magazines, and other informative materials regarding responsible parenting through the school library, advertise the current selection, and give parents the opportunity to borrow the materials for review.
- The Stuttgart Public Schools student/parent handbook outlines the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
- The principal shall appoint (1) certified staff member to serve as a parent facilitator. Carol Jo Lambert, library media specialist, is the parent facilitator for Stuttgart High School.

Stuttgart High School will engage parents in the evaluation of parental involvement efforts.

- The school will engage parents as they participate in ASCIP, handbook, and other committee roles in the evaluation of our parental involvement efforts and will utilize a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents and school staff. The ACSIP parental involvement committee, made up of teachers, parents and school staff, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in number of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.

Stuttgart High School will use the parent interest surveys to select, plan and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year.

- Stuttgart High school will sponsor seminars to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities.
- The school will use the results of the parent interest survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the year.
- Parents representing Stuttgart High School in the district's Parent Leadership Development Institute will participate in the review of the Parent Satisfaction Survey results and will make recommendations for the upcoming school year. The school will use the results and review of the Parent Satisfaction Survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the upcoming year.