

School Parent Involvement Policy

Barton Elementary School

2016-2017

Committee Members:

Curalstine Thomas	Parent Coordinator
Tammie Moore	Federal Programs Coordinator
Johnny Sumpter	Parent
Anna Hubbard	Parent
Charissa Watkins	Parent
Deborah Bland	Parent
Bernie Winkel	Principal

- 1. List various communication strategies used in your school to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.**

Barton Elementary will distribute a monthly newsletter to parents that is developed with participation of the parent-school organization, principal, staff, and parent volunteers. It includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips related to school achievement such as homework tips and organization skills. A parent can access their child's grades using a PIN number they received at the beginning of the school year. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff, and can call the school to schedule a conference. Mr. Winkel will provide parents with a monthly newsletter. All school personnel can be reached at 870-572-7294 during normal school hours.

- 2. List the proposed parent meeting, conferences, and activities regularly throughout this year and the dates providing flexible meeting times that you have planned to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts. (Must include the 2 state mandated parent/teacher conferences each year.)**

The following is a list of the dates, times, and scheduled activities for parents during the 2015-2016 school year:

- *August 4, 2016 Open House for Parents/Students
- *September 12, 2016 Annual Title I Night
- *October 4, 2016 Literacy Night K-6 (6:00-7:00)
- *October 12, 2016 Parent / Teacher Conference (2:30-7:00 pm)
- *March 15, 2017 Parent/ Teacher Conference (2:00-7:00)

*May 12, 2017 May Day (subject to change due to weather)

3. How will your school provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities (must include state mandated parent training)?

Barton Elementary will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during orientation of parents and through surveys. Brief training sessions will provide parents and community members with the information they need to become involved in school activities. Workshops 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. Demonstration on the use of and access to the Department of Education website tools for parents, assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation will be provided during the October Parent/Teacher conference.

4. How will your school work with parents to create a School-Parent-Compact?

The 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. All stakeholders will sign the compact.

5. How will your school provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of the school wide school improvement plan, and the Annual Title I Meeting to engage them in the decision-making processes regarding the school's Title I, Part A Program?

Barton Elementary School will engage parents in decision making about the allocation of its Title I, Part A funds for parental involvement.

- To take advantage of community resources, the school staff attempt to recruit alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
- The school shall enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Organization that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.
- Barton Schools will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with parental involvement strategies under other programs, such as the Head Start Program, Reading First Program, Early Reading First Program, Even Start Program, Parents as Teachers Program and state-run preschool programs.

6. How will your school provide resources for parents?

Parents may check out learning games, educational materials, use the computer to check grades, and visit educational web sites. A suggestion sheet will also be available parental input. The parent center will be open during school hours. 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 (notes, phone calls, e-mail, ..). Cuarlstine Thomas will

make these materials available in the parent center. During Parent-Teacher conference information from the center will be made available to the parents. Mrs. Thomas will be responsible for setting up this informational table. The parent facilitator, Curalstine Thomas, can be contacted at 870-572-7294 during normal school hours. Barton Elementary will 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 school has created a parent center. Barton Elementary will include in the school's policy handbook, 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 designate one certified staff member who is willing to serve as a parent facilitator.

7. How will your school engage parents in the evaluation of your parental involvement efforts?

Barton Elementary will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part Program's parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive needs assessment filled out by teachers, parents, and school staff. The 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 will be a part of the evaluation, 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. Curalstine Thomas

8. How will your school use the parent interest surveys to select, plan, and implement parental involvement activities that will be offered throughout the year?

Barton Elementary will ask parents to fill out a parent interest survey at registration or at the beginning of each school year to get information from parents concerning the activities they felt will be most beneficial in the efforts to support their child academically. Barton Elementary will use the results of the parent interest survey to plan the parental involvement activities for the year. Barton Elementary will evaluate the activities that were suggested by the parents at the end of the year as part of the annual parental involvement plan evaluation. The surveys will be given out or accessed online around the first of May.

9. When will your school plan the Annual Title I Meeting that must be conducted separately? (It CANNOT be held in conjunction with any other meetings or activities.)

Barton Elementary will conduct an Annual Title I meeting for parents of the students who participate in the Title I, Part A Program on September 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. Tammie Moore will provide the information shared.