



Orrs Elementary School

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"We will be a leader in the state in academic achievement."

2015-2016 Orrs Elementary School Parent Involvement Policy

Revised April 15, 2015

Principal: Mrs. Evelyn Jones
Assistant Principal: Ms. Shavon Beckett

School Mission: Learners today make leaders tomorrow through: Opportunities, Responsibilities, Respect, and Success.

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

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) (school parental involvement policy). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities.

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 improvement of 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 involvement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school and distribute it to the parents of participating children and make the parental involvement plan 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 and 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 involvement 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. Orrs 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.
 - Parents are asked to participate in the fall and spring parent questionnaire so that the school is better able to meet parent needs.
 - Offer an annual Title I Meeting where parents can share their input while planning, reviewing and improving Title I programs.
 - Parents have representatives on the School Council who can also offer their input when planning, reviewing and improving Title I programs.
 - Parents are provided with input forms regarding Title I funds and programs to ensure that the program is tailored to their needs.
2. Orrs Elementary School 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 and the school parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.
 - Notice will be given of the date and time of meeting at Open House, via Social Media and through flyers that will be sent home with students advertising it as well.
3. Orrs Elementary School 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.
 - Parent Workshops will be held on various days at various times so as to allow the majority of parents a convenient time and date to attend one of the workshops.

- Parent Liaison will also be available at any time to discuss or go over any concerns or questions parents may have about the academic expectations at Orrs.
 - Parent workshop information is put on the school website for parents to view at a time convenient for them.
4. Orrs Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:
- Timely information about the Title I programs; (Title I meeting in August)
 - 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; (Curriculum Night, Parent Workshops)
 - 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; (Surveys & Feedback Forms)
 - Information about meetings and/or Title I programs will be sent home via flyers and announced via Social Media.
 - Regular meetings will be scheduled at different times and on different days to allow for the majority of parents to participate.
 - Parent Liaison and teachers are also available at any time to discuss any concerns parents may have.
5. Orrs Elementary School 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.
- A meeting will be offered in the spring for parents to edit and revise the school-parent compact for the upcoming school year.
 - Parents may also offer suggestions at any time to the parent liaison.
 - The completed and revised compact is distributed to parents in the following ways: at Open House, via New Student Packets, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and via request at any time during the school year. It is also located on our website to be viewed by parents at any time.
6. Orrs Elementary School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order 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:
- A. Orrs Elementary School will provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
- 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, and
 - how to work with educators

- Open House gives parents a chance to meet their child's teacher and learn his or her expectations for the school year.
 - Parent workshops are offered every month to help assist parents in ways they can help their child succeed academically.
 - Curriculum and End-of-Grade (FOG) Nights are offered throughout the year to give specific tips on helping children succeed in those subject areas and on standardized tests.
 - Parents, students and staff sign and agree to adhere to the expectations set forth in the School-Parent Compact.
 - Newsletters are sent home monthly with tips for parents to use at home with their child.
- B. Orrs Elementary School 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:
- Parent workshops will be offered to assist parents on how to work with their child to improve their child's academic achievement.
- C. Orrs Elementary School will provide parent workshops (Parent Involvement, Literacy, Technology, and Testing) to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, 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:
- Staff trainings will be offered quarterly to help staff know and understand the expectations of our parents and how to best help them. A parent will co-present at one of these trainings.
 - Staff training input forms are collected from parents at the beginning of the year to ensure that the staff is being trained based on parent needs.
- D. Orrs Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, 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:
- The parent liaison will work closely with staff of other programs to provide opportunities to parents that will encourage parents to be involved in their child's educational career.
 - One time per semester the parent liaison will coordinate an event with another program in order to meet the specific needs of parents in the programs.
- E. Orrs Elementary School 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:
- Orrs Elementary will translate any and all documents requested so that all parents can read and understand the material being sent home.

- F. Orrs Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request, by;
- Parents will have multiple opportunities to request specific parent workshops and/or help in certain areas. The parent liaison will pay close attention to the requested information and provide the parents with such in a timely manner.
 - Parents are offered childcare and/or transportation to parent workshops at least one time per semester in order to give unwilling and/or unable parents the opportunity to attend parent events.