

Jasper Middle School

Parent Involvement Policy

Jasper Middle School believes that parental involvement is critical to the success of the school and its students. Parental participation is encouraged and needed to enhance your child's educational experience.

In conformance with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002, the school has developed this parent involvement policy. The policy is available to parents of all students.

The policy establishes the expectations for parent involvement and commits the school to:

- Involve parents in the development of the parent involvement policy and the process of school improvement.
- Build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parent involvement.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with all programs in the school.
- Conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the policy in increasing the participation of parents and to identify barriers to greater participation by parents.

To implement this policy, the school will:

- At least once annually, the school will convene a parent meeting at a convenient time to discuss the parent involvement policy, its requirements and their right to be involved.
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of school programs, through participation in advisory committee and school council meetings.
- Provide parents with timely information about school performance profiles and their child's individual student assessment results, including an interpretation of the results; a description and explanation of the curriculum, forms of assessment, and the proficiency levels expected; opportunities for regular meetings; and timely responses to parents' suggestions about the education of their children.
- Maintain a web site that highlights school programs and student accomplishments.
- Post the parent involvement plan on the web site.
- Issue annually to all students a student handbook or agenda that explains school programs and policies, including the parent involvement policy.
- Send newsletters and/or written information to parents on a regular basis.
- Hold an annual open house and invite all parents to meet faculty, staff, and administrators.

- Notify parents when their children perform poorly on state-wide assessments or on diagnostic tests administered by the district and give the parents information about remedial program offerings.

Parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student achievement. The school will develop jointly with parents, a school-parent compact that outlines how parents and the school staff will build a partnership to help students achieve the state's high standards. The compact will:

- Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet state performance standards.
- Describe ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their child's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in their child's school; participating, when appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
- Address the importance of ongoing communication between teachers and parents through parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on the child's progress; and reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.

To ensure effective involvement of parents, and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve student achievement, the school will:

- Provide assistance to parents in such areas as understanding National Education Goals, the state's content standards, student performance standards, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve student performance.
- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children.
- Educate teachers and staff as to how to reach out to communicate with and work with parents as partners and build ties between home and school.
- Send information about school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to homes of students in the language used in their homes.
- Make provisions for participation of parents with limited English proficiency or with disabilities.
- Provide other reasonable support for parent involvement as may be requested by parents.

Title I Funding Notification

Money is provided by the federal government to support student academic achievement. At JMS, Title I funds are primarily expended to support student achievement through the addition of a Connection course in math and language arts instruction.