

HT Smith Elementary School

Fowlerville Community Schools

Parent Involvement Plan

Mission Statement

The staff of HT Smith Elementary School believes that all students are capable of learning and can achieve basic skills. We accept the responsibility to teach the total student so that each child may attain positive growth socially, emotionally, and academically. We accept the responsibility to maintain a creative and supportive atmosphere.

Purpose

The Fowlerville Community School District recognizes the shared responsibility of the school and family during the time the child spends in school. Engaging parents is essential to improving student achievement.

This plan is in response to the compliance component of Act 603 of 2003 and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and in accordance with District Board Policy 7175-2. The plan, established with the help of parents of Title I students and teachers, includes programs and practices designed to enhance parent involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

Program Implementation and Coordination

Annually, the leadership of HT Smith Elementary School will convene a meeting to which parents are invited. At this meeting, the principal and staff inform the parents of the school's participation in Title I, explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of parents to be involved in the school. Management of the program will ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the school.

Parent Involvement

HT Smith Elementary School holds a number of meetings for parents at flexible times for the parents' convenience. These include; Title I family meetings, Java with Jan and Jim, Parent Teacher Club (PTC) meetings, Family Fun Nights, Parent Training, and Parent/Teacher Conferences. Regular meetings are conducted where parents are involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of the programs for parent and community involvement.

HT Smith Elementary School provides a regular time for parents to meet with teachers to formulate suggestions, to participate in decisions relating to the education of their

children, and to respond to any suggestions as soon as possible. This is done through parent conferences and by having teachers available to meet with parents as needed.

HT Smith Elementary School coordinates and integrates to the extent feasible and appropriate, parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Little Glad Center, and other community preschool programs.

HT Smith Elementary School sends parents information relating to school and parent programs, meetings, and activities to the extent practicable, in the language parents can understand. This is done through an ELL tutor/translator.

HT Smith Elementary School provides full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency and/or disabilities to the extent practicable. This is done through an ELL tutor/translator.

Communication

HT Smith Elementary School will provide parents with timely information about programs and services through the handbook, the school newsletter, classroom newsletters, PTC meetings, our school website, phone communication, e-mail, Fowlerville News and Views Community newspaper, and school-wide Family Fun Night Events.

HT Smith Elementary School provides parents a description and explanation of the core curriculum, academic assessments used to measure progress, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet. This is done through the handbook, parent conferences, Home/School folders, the school newsletter and classroom newsletters.

HT Smith Elementary School's principal and staff make themselves available to assist parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards, state student academic achievement standards, state and local assessments, how to monitor a child's progress, and how they can work with the school staff to improve achievement of their children and the requirements of parent involvement.

HT Smith Elementary School, with the assistance of parents, has educated teachers, the counselor, principal and other staff in the value of parent contributions. The staff has been trained in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners. The staff has been trained to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

HT Smith Elementary School has jointly developed with parents a home-school compact. This is a written compact that outlines how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and that school and parents will partner to help students achieve the state's high standards. The compact describes the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the state's academic

achievement standards. The home-school compact describes the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting student learning and participating in decisions relating to the education of their student(s). The home-school compact addresses the importance of communication between the teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through parent-teacher conferences and progress reports to parents.

HT Smith Elementary School provides parent resources to encourage continued support in the home through the following resources:

- ❖ Parent Information and Resource Center (PIRC), 11172 Adams St, Holland, MI 49423. Director: Deanna Depree. Phone 616-396-7566 x116.
www.lifeservicesystem.org
- ❖ Parents as Teachers program. www.pta.org

Parent Volunteers

HT Smith Elementary School gives parents reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate, and observe in their child's class. In order to volunteer with the Fowlerville School district, each volunteer must complete the following:

- Fill out the Fowlerville Community Schools' Volunteer Application
- Submit to a school volunteer's criminal background check (see School Board Policy 9230)
- Must read and understand your responsibilities under FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) and initial that you have done so on application.

Summary

It is the goal of the Fowlerville Community Schools to assure an ongoing partnership between the parents, the community and the school. The district believes such a partnership is fundamental to the academic and social success of students. It is the districts hope that this partnership will produce an atmosphere of community involvement that has a positive impact on the lives of our students.

This written Parent Involvement Plan shall be distributed to all parents of students at HT Smith Elementary School in an understandable format and in a language parents can understand. It has been placed on the school website making it available to the local community. This plan has been periodically updated to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. If the plan is not satisfactory to parents, comments may be submitted in writing to the school that will be responded to and staff at HT Smith Elementary School will actively work to resolve these concerns.

This plan can be found in digital format by following this link:

<http://fowlervilleschools.org/Smith.cfm?subpage=275376>

Select Parent Resources/Parent Involvement Plan/HT Smith Elementary