

Parental Involvement Policy Southside Elementary School 2023-2024

1. Southside Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

The Southside Elementary School Parent Advisory Council is comprised of parents, teachers, the assistant principal, and the principal. The parents serving on the council are our Parent Teacher Organization Board members. The committee works together to develop a comprehensive plan that will involve the parents, students, and faculty in meeting the needs of the students and realizing the vision for our school. The council meets five times per year to review school information relevant to our Title I status.

A School-Based Minority Advisory Council has been formed to review the progress of minority students and to discuss other concerns as related to the progress of all students. This committee is comprised of a parent, community member, three school staff members, and an administrator. An agenda is sent out one week prior to each meeting. This council meets twice yearly, and will have all meetings conducted virtually.

2. Southside Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

The parents will be afforded the opportunity to discuss the current accreditation status of the school and review the school improvement plan for the current school year at the first PTO meeting held each year. An overview of the SSE Title I program is shared with parents at this meeting and includes:

- Accreditation status
- Explanation of Accreditation
- Tutoring Programs offered to students
- Math Programs
- Reading Programs

Subsequent PTO meetings are held to discuss student progress, programs offered, and school improvement updates.

3. Southside Elementary will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

Parents will be sent a monthly calendar outlining the programs and activities that are available to the students and families. The school website provides access to calendars and PTO events as well as ongoing activities at the school.

PowerSchool messaging will be utilized to provide daily and weekly updates about school and classroom level events. SchoolMessenger will provide parents with the most pertinent and up to date information via call, email, and text.

Co-curricular Parent Involvement Activities for 2023-2024

- PTO Meetings (In Person on Conference Night)
- Conference Nights
- Book Fairs
- Bullying Prevention Week
- STEM Day (includes Science Fair)
- Black History Month Program
- Read Across America / Bingo for Books
- SOL Pep Rally

Extra-curricular Parent Involvement Activities for 2023-2024

- Welcome Back 2 School Picnic
- Grandparent's Day Breakfast
- Fall Concert
- Fall Fest & The Great Pumpkin Run
- Winter Concert
- Winter Wonderland
- Spring Concert
- VIP & Me Dance
- Awards Programs

4. Southside Elementary School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs by:

The Virginia Preschool Initiative Program, in conjunction with Pittsylvania County Head Start, provides parent involvement activities for our parents as well as

other services that may be needed by our families. The VPI family services coordinator provides ongoing parent workshops that afford parents an opportunity to receive information on community services, GED attainment, or strategies to help their children be successful in school.

5. Southside Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of the school. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

At the end of each school year, the Parent Advisory Council and the principal meet to discuss of the effectiveness of the Title I instructional program and parental involvement policies. Discussion relevant to changes, suggestions, or concerns are documented and incorporated in planning for the upcoming school year.

6. Southside Elementary School will build the schools' and parent's 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. The school will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph

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- 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.

All parents will be informed in writing of the opportunity to attend PTO meetings, parent workshops, and Family Involvement Nights. During these events, parents have an opportunity to review the Virginia Standards of Learning for the given workshop and to have discussions relevant to how they can assist their child in achieving academically. Parents are also provided a copy of the state standards at the beginning of the year in the PCS Elementary Parent-Student Handbook.

Parents of students with disabilities will be selected to serve on the school's Special Education Advisory Council, at which time they may address any issues or concerns they may have relevant to the programs offered at Southside Elementary. Additionally, information is shared concerning any changes to the educational programs offered and testing options available for our students.

Parents will be sent monthly copies of the newsletter, Early Years and Nutritional Nuggets. These newsletters provide information to help promote the home-school connection.

Parents will be invited at a minimum of twice per year (fall and winter) to parent-teacher conferences so that they will be informed as to the academic, social and emotional growth their child demonstrates.

B. The school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Read Across America focuses on reading and provides books and information for parents on working with students in reading at home.
- STEM Day focuses on math and science and provides information and ideas for parents in working with students in these content areas at home.
- VPI workshops are held throughout the year to foster an understanding of the educational process and offer tips to parents in raising academically strong students.

C. The school will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals 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 schools, by:

Parents are encouraged to attend various family involvement activities throughout the year. They are notified in writing of the events as well as the purpose of the activity. Parents may participate in any of the following activities:

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- PTO Meetings (In Person on Conference Night)
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- Black History Month Program
- Read Across America / Bingo for Books
- SOL Pep Rally

Extra-curricular Parent Involvement Activities for 2023-2024

- Welcome Back 2 School Picnic
- Grandparent's Day Breakfast

- Fall Choral Concert
- Fall Fest & The Great Pumpkin Run
- Winter Choral Concert
- Winter Wonderland
- Spring Choral Concert
- VIP & Me Dance
- Awards Programs

D. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in fully participating in the education of their children, by:

The school provides research-based literature such as Parent and Child Magazine, Early Years, and Nutritional Nuggets for parents to read to assist in teaching their children needed skills at home.

The Virginia Preschool Initiative Program provides parent involvement activities for parents throughout the year that encourage and support parents in educating their children.

The school maintains a parent resource center within the school library for parents. Parents are encouraged to utilize these resources as well as those within the community to assist with any needs they may have.

E. The 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:

Notices, in an understandable format, are sent prior to meetings, activities, or other events which parents are to attend both in person and virtually. Fliers, Class DOJO posts, class newsletters, and SchoolMessenger notifications are

methods of communication. Translated messages can be received via Class DOJO and SchoolMessenger.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The School Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.]

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ADOPTION

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the motion to accept the plan.

This policy was adopted by **Southside Elementary School** on **July 27, 2023** and will be in effect for the period of **2023-2024**. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **August 31, 2023**.

Dr. Leslie Hackworth
(Signature of Principal)

July 27, 2023
(Date)

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SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Southside Elementary School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the 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 that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during school year 2023-2024

School Responsibilities

Southside Elementary School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

The school will offer research-based programs in math and reading that meet state guidelines. Intervention services are provided for students who did not meet the benchmark on the SOL tests, PALS assessments, teacher made assessments, or MAP assessments. Intervention and remediation are provided in kindergarten through fifth grade in math and reading.

2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on October 19, 2023 and March 21, 2024. In addition to these scheduled conference nights, teachers are available for conferences upon parent request.

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

- Progress Reports
- Report Cards at nine-week intervals
- Weekly review of graded assignments

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

Staff will be available for parent conferences before or after school. Additional times can be scheduled as needed during the school day.

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:

Parents are encouraged to volunteer and participate in their child's education. In accordance with PCS policy regarding classroom observations, parents may schedule a time to visit their child's class. Advanced notice is required so as not to interrupt the instructional process.

The PTO maintains a volunteer base for the school and solicits help from the parents as it is needed by the school. Parent volunteers are used as homeroom parents and volunteer listeners in our reading program.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Providing a balanced diet that is rich in the necessary nutrients
- Making sure that your child receives enough sleep
- Making sure that homework is completed.

- Monitoring amount of television their children watch.
- Volunteering in my child's classroom.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.
- Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.
- Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State's Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.

Student Responsibilities

We as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, we will:

- Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.
- Read at least 20 minutes every day outside of school time.
- Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.

Southside Elementary

School

Parent(s)

Student

Date

Date

Date