

Harold McCormick Elementary Family and Community Engagement Plan

Harold McCormick Elementary School Mission Statement

Our mission is to build cooperative links among home, school, and community in an effort to provide a safe, nurturing environment in which students can become productive and responsible members of our society.

Harold McCormick Elementary Statements of Beliefs

- 1) A child's education is the responsibility of the student, the family, the community, and the school system.
- 2) All students will be provided a safe, disciplined, and nurturing environment.
- 3) All students will receive optimal instruction based on their individual abilities and needs.
- 4) All students will be actively engaged in a variety of learning environment.
- 5) All students will be provided the opportunity to master life skills such as academics, problem solving, and social responsibility.
- 6) All students will be encouraged to develop and model high standards of character, which will foster respect for themselves and others.

Parental Involvement Definition

Parental Involvement can be defined as the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. This involvement ensures that parents: a) play an integral role in assisting their child's learning. b) are encouraged to be actively informed and involved in their child's education, and c) are partners in their child's education and included as appropriate in decision making through advisory committees. Research overwhelmingly identifies parental involvement as a critical component to a child's academic success. Harold McCormick Elementary School will foster and support parental involvement as outlined in the following plan.

Parental Involvement Overview

Parents are children's primary educators and their encouragement and support are vital. Harold McCormick Elementary School recognizes that a child's education is a collaborative effort between the school and family. We acknowledge that collaborative efforts between school and home are essential to achieve academic success. Harold McCormick Elementary School is a compilation of an enthusiastic faculty/staff, Dedicated parents, and committed community agencies who seek to not only help every child reach their maximum potential, but also to instill the life long love of learning. The parent and community support is exemplified by the successful implementation of the many programs and incentives incorporated at HME.

Parental Support for Academic Success:

1) The school will provide materials and opportunities to help parents work with their children to improve academic success.

- ✍ Principal's Page- a weekly memo from the principal which outlines upcoming events, news to use, and special messages.
- ✍ Student handbook/agendas- an assignment book that outlines daily assignments.
- ✍ School website link to BLUEPRINT FOR LEARNING.
- ✍ Supply lists and support for families in need.
- ✍ TCAP results (literature and information explaining results provided).
- ✍ Parent Meetings outlining curriculum and tools for assessment.
- ✍ Family Engagement Plan is online.

2) The school will provide effective two-way communication between families and school.

- ✍ Handbook for students and parents (updated & published online yearly).
- ✍ Letter(s) from teachers outlining expectations, homework and discipline
- ✍ Written notes, letters, and announcements
- ✍ Student Grade Reports (mid and end of term).
- ✍ Newsletters (containing upcoming events, tips for helping students, tidbits of school happenings)
- ✍ School Web Site (www.ecschools.net/Hurricanes)
- ✍ Parent/Teacher conferences (available **any time** by appointment or scheduled in accordance with academic calendar-2 per year)
- ✍ Surveys (Family Friendly and School Improvement)
- ✍ Grade Level Parent Meetings (held at beginning of the school year to discuss handbook, classroom expectations, etc.)
- ✍ School Calendar
- ✍ New Releases (textbook-review, special events, student honors, etc.)
- ✍ Annual Meeting outlining Title I status
- ✍ Assistance to families with limited English proficiency
- ✍ Homeless Program through McKinney/Veto Act

Parent Education

The school will provide access to resources and information for families to help their child succeed.

- ✍ Parent Information Center (designated area in school foyer which provide information and literature on various topics)
- ✍ School Nurse (provides consultation to families when necessary)
- ✍ Hearing/Vision Screenings (notification and consultation provided to parents)
- ✍ Title I School Compact

Parental Involvement in the School:

The school will provide opportunities for parents and community to participate in school events.

- ✍ **P**arent **T**eacher **A**dvisory **C**ommittee.
- ✍ School Improvement Committee.
- ✍ Volunteer Opportunities (Special events, Room Mom/Dad, Teacher assistance, Library Aides, Reading Programs, Guest Speakers, Beautification Projects)
- ✍ Meals w/student (parents may join child for breakfast or lunch)
- ✍ Family Night (Open House-1 per year, Family Reading Night, School Musical)
- ✍ Honors/Awards Assemblies
- ✍ Show Choir Concerts (two per year)
- ✍ Art Show
- ✍ End of Year Talent Show
- ✍ Character Education Program
- ✍ A parent involvement night sign up sheet (goes home with registration materials)
- ✍ A volunteer notebook is kept (used by teachers, committees, etc. when volunteer help is needed)
- ✍ Private business donations
- ✍ Civic Involvement (Kiwanis and Knights of Columbia Reading Program for at risk students)
- ✍ Volunteer Luncheon (all school volunteers are honored for their commitment to our school)
- ✍ One percent of Title I funding to support parental involvement activities
- ✍ Parental Involvement Committee
- ✍ Classroom Observation
- ✍ K-Kids

Staff Training In Parental Involvement

The school will educate teachers and paraprofessionals to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners.

Family Engagement Workshop presented by Dr. Constantino

Family Friendly School Survey

Directional signs in school building for easy access

Family Engagement Faculty Coordinator

Statistical analysis and data driven decision making

Shared Responsibilities for High Academic Success

The school provides additional assistance to promote academic success and implements appropriate disciplinary and attendance procedures.

- ✍ Academic Success
- ✍ Student Tutoring
- ✍ Enrichment Activities
- ✍ Summer School
- ✍ K-Kids
- ✍ Extended School Program (ESP)

Disciplinary Procedures

- ✍ Parent letters outlining classroom expectations
- ✍ School handbook describing disciplinary procedures
- ✍ Teacher Intervention: Consequences and rewards
- ✍ After School Detention
- ✍ In School Suspension
- ✍ Office Referrals
- ✍ Parent Contract/Conference

Attendance Procedures

- ✍ School Handbook- outlines attendance procedures and policies
- ✍ Grade Level Parent Meetings
- ✍ School District Attendance Committee to assist families

Evaluation

Harold McCormick Elementary is committed to effectively educating all students by working with parents as knowledgeable partners. We will continue to seek opportunities to encourage parental engagement and make addendums to this plan as necessary.

While parent involvement has been strong at HME, and programs and procedures have long been in place, this written document has been developed in response to the legal requirement of Act 603 of 2003 and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and in accordance with school board policy 4.502.