IRONTON ELEMENTARY PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Administration, Teachers, and staff of Ironton Elementary School recognize and value parents and families as children's first teachers and decision-makers in education. We believe that student learning is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between the school and the student's parents and family. Such a partnership between the home and school generally results in higher academic achievement, improved student behavior, and reduced absenteeism.

In cultivating partnerships with families and community, the Ironton Elementary School administration, teachers, and staff will:

***Develop with parents and distribute to parents a Parental Involvement Policy;**
***Notify parents about the policy and distribute this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand;**
***Make the Parental Involvement Policy available to the local community;**
***Periodically review and update the policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school;**
***Adopt the School-Parent Compact as a component of our Parental Involvement Policy;**
***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) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
(B) 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.

Ironton Elementary School will implement required school parental involvement policy components as follows:

1. Take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development and joint agreement of its Parental Involvement Policy and its school wide plan, if applicable, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.

Disseminate to parents for review the District Parental Involvement Policy, the School's Parental Involvement Policy, the School-Parent Compact, and Parent Notices as required by No Child Left Behind (NCLB). These materials will be disseminated to parents at the Annual Title I Meeting, Parent Group Meetings, and Parent/Teacher Conferences. Written and oral input from parents will be solicited through Parent Surveys, Parent Group Meetings, Parent/Teacher Conferences, electronic media such as email, and other regular written communications with parents.

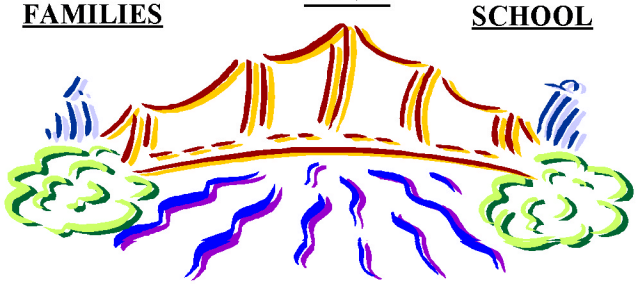
2. Take the following actions to distribute to parents and the local community the Parental Involvement Policy:

* *The policy will be posted on the school's web site;*
* *The policy will be distributed to parents by the end of September each year through a handout, newsletter, and/or email;*
* *Parents of new students will receive the policy upon registering their child.*

3. Periodically Update the Parent Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and school through:

* *School Climate Policy/Procedure and Parent/Community Outreach meetings*
* *Parent Group meetings*
* *Annual Title I meeting*
* *Parents may submit comments in writing regarding the school wide Parental Involvement Plan to their child's teacher, the Title I Coordinator, the principal , or the appropriate department within Ironton City School District.*

FAMILIES AND SCHOOL



TO "BRIDGE" THE GAP BETWEEN FAMILIES/THE COMMUNITY, AND IRONTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; WE ARE COMMITTED TO PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT THROUGH THE FOLLOWING:

SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES WORKING TOGETHER

1. Creating a school environment that is welcoming, supportive, and student-centered;
2. Having professional development for school staff that helps build partnerships for families and schools;
3. Providing assistance and/or training to parents in understanding topics such as the following:
   - * Use of Technology and available sites to assist parents in working with their children to improve academic achievement,
   - * Progress Book Access,
   - * Core Academic Content Standards,
   - * The School's Curriculum,
   - * Requirements of Title I,
   - * State and Local Academic Assessments.
4. Providing Family activities/programs to bridge economic and cultural barriers such as:

* Family Fun Nights
* Hot Dog Day
* Spring Fling
* Fun Fridays
* Book Bag Program
* Shoe/Clothes Closet
* Food Pantry
* Angel Tree Program

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

1. Providing information to families to support proper health, safety, and well-being of their children;
2. Giving information to families about school policies, procedures, programs, and activities;
3. Promoting open communication between school personnel and students' family members in a language that is understandable, to the extent practicable;
4. Giving information to and involving families in monitoring student progress;
5. Furnishing families with timely and meaningful information regarding Ohio's academic standards, State and local assessments, and pertinent legal provisions.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

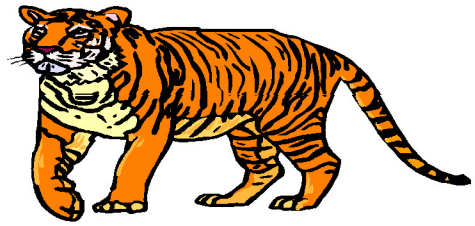
1. Providing opportunities for families/community members to support children and staff through participation in school activities such as:
   - *Book Fairs
   - *Grandparent Volunteer Program
   - *Inflatable Party
   - *Limo Luncheon
   - *Fun Nights
   - *Picture Days
   - *Lunchroom Helping Hands
   - *Ice Cream Sundae Celebration
   - *Staff Appreciation Day, etc...
2. Supporting other needs, such as transportation and child care, to enable families to participate in school-sponsored family involvement events.
3. Volunteers are informed of the importance of confidentiality and are asked to sign a document explaining the requirement of confidentiality/respect for each child's situation and each family's right to privacy.

LEARNING AT HOME

1. Offering training and resources to help families learn strategies and skills to support at-home learning and success in school;
2. Working with families to establish learning goals and help their children accomplish these goals;
3. Helping families to provide a school and home environment that encourages learning and extends learning at home.

SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES WORKING TOGETHER

1. Involving families as partners in the process of school review and continuous improvement;
2. Involving families in the development of its Building Parent Involvement Plan and the distributing of the policy to families.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

1. Building partnerships and connecting families with community-based programs and other community resources;
2. Coordinating and integrating family involvement programs and activities with District initiatives and community-based programs that encourage and support family participation in their child's education, growth, and development.