

ALCALDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Espanola Public Schools

Alcalde Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan

2016-2017

Research has shown that parent involvement results in increased student success, increased parent and teacher satisfaction and overall improvement in the school climate.

Parent involvement promotes a healthy and consistent learning environment by establishing mutual goals between parents and educators and developing activities that bridge home and school. Therefore, it is the vision of Alcalde Elementary to form a home-school collaboration that brings together school staff, parents, children and community members in hopes of maximizing all resources that will increase student achievement and development.

Children learn best when there are significant adults in their lives - - teachers, parents, and other family and community members. Schools alone cannot address all of the student's needs. With parents as partners the faculty and staff of Alcalde Elementary School will share a joint responsibility for providing a stimulating and supporting environment for the children. Parent involvement is essential, as children learn first from their parents. Parents are teachers, learners, supporters and advocates for their children. It is therefore vitally important that they be included in their children's educational plan.

STANDARD 1 **COMMUNICATION**

Perhaps the most important tool in any partnership is communication. It is the foundation of a solid partnership.

When parents and educators communicate effectively, positive relationships develop, problems are more easily solved and the students make greater progress. Often communication is one-way without chance to exchange ideas or share perceptions. Effective home-school communication is the two-way sharing of information vital to student success. Alcalde Elementary will therefore, promote regular, two-way, meaningful communication between home and school. Evidence that supports this standard will be presented in:

- **Parent/teacher notes**
- **Messages from the principal**
- **Parent/teacher conferences**
- **E-mail**
- **School/District websites**
- **Flyers/brochures**
- **Parent/student Handbook**
- **Newsletters**
- **Calendars**
- **Telephone calls**
- **Report cards and progress reports**

- **Family Book Fairs**
- **Family Movie Nights**
- **School Wide Reading at Home Program**
- **Family Game and Math Night**
- **Literacy Night**

These opportunities for the exchange of information are vital and must be used consistently for meaningful parent involvement to occur.

Procedure:

- 1.Parent/teacher notes**
- 2.Messages from the principal**
- 3.Parent/teacher conferences**
- 4.School/District websites**
- 5.Flyers/Brochures**
- 6.Parent/Student Handbook**
- 7.Newsletters**
- 8.Calendars**
- 9.Report cards and progress reports**
- 10.Math/Game Nights**
- 11.Family Book Fairs**
- 12.Family Movie nights**
- 13. Literacy Night**

STANDARD II **STUDENT LEARNING**

Research confirms that the most critical relationship regarding student achievement remains the connection between the parent and the teacher. Clear and concise expectations must always exist. It is a given fact that not all learning can take place in the school and that children will need additional help from their parents.

The importance of student learning and achievement presents an opportunity for schools and teachers to communicate with families and also provide avenues for involvement that will foster student success. Student learning increases when parents are invited into the process by helping at home. Most parents are willing to assist their children in learning, but many are not sure what assistance is most helpful and appropriate. Helping parents connect their children's learning enables parents to communicate in powerful ways that they value education and the achievements of their children.

Procedure:

- Provide in-service training for teachers and staff about techniques to engage parents in learning. Teachers will share success stories.
- Provide student project that will require parental assistance.
- Offer classes and other training opportunities for parents to acquire learning strategies to assist their children at home
- Offer parents opportunities to be involved in decision-making.

STANDARD III **VOLUNTEERING**

When most think of parent involvement, volunteering comes to mind. The parent volunteer is one of the most used methods to incorporate parent involvement into the school. It is relatively easy and often not too time consuming. However, if the school is to profit from its volunteers, methods to ensure all parents are being utilized must be implemented. Opportunities for the stay-at-home parent or parents of different cultures must be incorporated. Personal interests, areas of expertise, significant life experiences also must be exposed in order to provide a range of variety for the school climate. The school must think about ways to also combine parent expertise to community resources.

Procedure:

- Create a warm climate that welcomes parents and encourages volunteering.
- Train parents to develop the necessary skills to help where needed in the school.

STANDARD IV **SCHOOL DECISION MAKING AND ADVOCACY**

Parents are the “natural” advocates for their children and should be “full partners” with teachers and administrators in decisions affecting their children and families. They should also play an active role in policy-making. This partnership should be

based on mutual trust, respect, and an appreciation for cultural diversity and tolerance for differing viewpoints.

Procedure:

- Encourage parents to be involved on policy making that reflects representation of the demographics of the school and community.
- Involve parents in the process of evaluating and planning school functions
- Provide parents with all school performance data.
- Develop methods to treat parent concerns with respect

Immediate Plans:

Two-Way Communication

Electronic Communication

- Daily parent-teacher e-mails
- School websites
- Student Achievement information on-line

Newsletters

Monthly school newsletters - with section for feedback opportunities.

District newspaper

Face to Face

- Use of School Counselor to connect with families.
- Sponsor Family Learning Nights focused to promote learning at home in academic subjects (to come).

Others

- Coordinate scheduling of parent-teacher conferences so all parents can attend.
- Make translators available at parent-teacher conferences for limited or non-English speaking families.

Future Plans: Two-Way Communication

Newsletters

- Teach-to-Parent newsletters.
- District-wide newsletters.

Meetings

- Monthly parent group meetings with principal (PAC)
- Parents are welcome anytime so parents and administrator can talk one-on-one.
- Hold an information meeting for parents to understand Title 1 and RDA as well as Common Core.

Other

- Weekly take-home folder of student work.
- Student assignment notebooks that parents sign - place for parents to write concerns or ask specific questions to teachers for feedback.
- Communication from principal to parents sent in letters.

Alcalde Elementary Events

Month				
August	Welcome Back!			
September	Open House	Healthy Life Style Assembly		
October	Red Ribbon Week	Halloween Parade and Celebration	Parent Teacher Conferences	
November	Thanksgiving Meal/Celebration of Learning			
December	PAC Meeting	NDI Performance	Family Movie Night	
January				
February	Family Math Night			
March	Book Fair	Parent teacher conferences	Literacy Night	
April				
May	6 th Grade Graduation Celebration	Field Trips		

June				
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