

Auburn Elementary School Title I Family Involvement Policy 2019-2020

Auburn Elementary School is committed to the goal of providing a quality education for every child. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with families and with the community. Everyone benefits when parties from both school and home work together to promote high achievement by our children. Neither home nor school can accomplish this task alone. Home support may come from parents, grandparents, family members, legal guardians, foster parents, and other individuals. When parents are referenced in this document, Auburn Elementary School (AES) is encompassing all of these vital parties. Parents play an extremely important role as their children's first teachers. Family support for their children and for the school is critical to our children's success at every step along the way.

At curriculum night in the fall, classroom teachers explain their grade level expectations for academics, behavior and daily routines. Parents are also given information about the Title I program and how it is structured at AES. Title I is a federally funded program based on the number of socioeconomically disadvantaged students in our school population. This program is designed to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education. Our Title I staff gives additional support to any child who demonstrates a need in the area of literacy as indicated by various assessments. Parents are notified if their child is eligible to receive such support. The number of reading teachers at AES, tips for helping students with reading at home, and the reading level milestones that are expected throughout the year are discussed. The Title I teachers are present at curriculum night to answer any questions. AES is currently a school wide Title I school and thus, letters announcing parent involvement meetings are sent to every student at our school. These programs are advertised in advance and held at various times to offer all parents the opportunity to attend.

There are many ways in which parents can become involved with their children's education. AES values both the at-home contribution and those which take place at school and in the community. Reading to children at home and talking with them at a family meal is as important as volunteering at school and serving on committees. Many types of parental involvement are needed in a school-home-community partnership that will help all of our children succeed. Parents are always welcome to observe, provide input, and give feedback. We also value any time parents may be able to give to the school; such as reading to students, leading a skill-based classroom station, monitoring computer time, cutting or copying materials, etc. Family and community members may also share a talent, skill, or other educational information. We love to have these valuable resources

in our building! At AES, we offer many events during the year to encourage family and community participation such as open house, fall festival, PTSO meetings and programs, a science fair, fine arts night, JumpStart, books and breakfast event, One School:One Book celebration night, and others.

An annual fall survey is sent home as an opportunity for families to give their input about possible topics for workshops and convenient days and times for events. Parents can also volunteer to serve on our literacy committee or to attend District Parent Advisory Committee meetings. Suggestions for workshops or family engagement events can also be made by calling our school. In the spring, we send home another survey for families to evaluate the programs we offered. Auburn Elementary School will revise our Family Involvement Policy annually with parent input and analysis of the survey.

Communication is a critical component to our children's success. One form of communication with parents includes a Title I progress report sent home at the end of each nine week grading period along with report cards. Progress reports are only for students receiving supplementary literacy instruction and include a summary of skills taught during the grading period. Helpful parenting tips are available on the AES website and updated regularly. Notes, phone calls, and emails are made as needed to provide information as well as to gain parent input. We also disperse information using School Messenger, the Remind 101 app, and social media. Conferences are conducted in the fall and again mid-year as necessary. Teachers may choose to also make home visits.

Classroom teachers provide parents with daily communication through our Auburn Daily News Folders in grades K-2 and agendas in grades 3-5. Parents receive notices about upcoming events and other pertinent information as well as homework, supplementary games, and reinforcement activities. Parents are asked to check backpacks daily, respond to notices in a timely manner, and assist students with homework assignments as needed. Parents are also expected to monitor the amount of screen time such as: television viewing, video game playing, and on-line surfing, in addition to providing opportunities for physical activity to promote a healthy balance for children.

Parents greatly influence their children. A positive attitude about learning and a clear message of the importance of doing their best can provide the springboard for students to excel. We want to work together with parents and the community to provide the best possible learning environment for our students. As our vision statement expresses, "We are Auburn Elementary; a community of learners working together to become shining stars."