



Gary Districtwide Parental Involvement Policy School Year 2023-2024

Gary Community School (GCSC), in its efforts to meet the requirements of Every Students Succeeds Acts (ESSA), agrees to enlist the help of parents in creating a learning environment that promotes academic excellence and supports parental involvement. GCSC commits to establishing and honoring the following policies:

- Each school will convene two (2) Annual Title 1 meetings during the first quarter of the school year. To accommodate the schedules of parents one meeting will be held in the evening and one in the daytime.
- During the biannual Title 1 meeting, (September or October) parents will be informed of their rights as well as the requirements for meetings the mandates of the federally funded Title 1 Program
- For the most part, meetings and parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled to accommodate the needs of both working and non-working parents
- In order to support each Title 1 school, the lead Parent Liaison and the Federal Programs director would meet with each principal and school-level Title 1 staff prior to each biannual Title 1 meeting to support the creation of the agenda, activities, and information to be shared with the parents. Support will be provided through the principal meetings and/or school-level meetings.
- Parents will be selected and encouraged to participate in each schools School Improvement Committee meetings. The parents and staff will conduct an annual review of the following
 - Parent Involvement Policy
 - Strategic Plan
 - School-wide Improvement Plan
 - Home-School Compact
- Parents will be provided school-related information that is disseminated in a timely manner. Information will include, but is not limited to:
 - Description/Explanation of school's curriculum
 - Academic Assessments forms
 - ILEARN (3RD -8TH)
- SAT (High school)

- IREAD3 (3RD)
- iReady (K-8th)
- WIDA (K-12TH)

- Expected proficiency levels of students

- Opportunities for parents to participate in the decision-making process
- Parent Group meets regularly with the principal
- Materials & Training on how parents can improve student achievement (workshops)
- Educational programs that builds ties between home and school (First Steps)
- To the extent possible, information will be translated in the fall and as needed both written and spoken form and given in both languages.
- Communicate with parents via website, Facebook, Alert Now, marquee and monthly newsletter, Instagram, text, email, and a letter sent home.

- Additionally, each school will consent to the following:

- Encouraging partnerships with community-based organizations and businesses
 - Acknowledge parent feedback that is communicated via surveys, written correspondence, etc
 - Provide a Parent Liaison to connect between school and community to increase parent communication and participation. This liaison will also provide training to educators on how to best engage families, respect the ability of parents to serve as a child's first teacher, and improve the home-school connection.
 - Establishing and maintaining a parent resource room facilitated by the parent liaison
 - Scheduling Parent/Teacher Conferences in the Fall and as needed during the school year
 - Encouraging and supporting ongoing communication with each School's Parent Group
 - Parents can always request more supports by emailing the school or FACE Liaison, or by emailing the teacher
- Each spring, the District has several opportunities for incoming students to learn about their new schools, including students transitioning from Pre-Kindergarten. These events, such as Kindergarten round-up, will include the opportunity for Head Start to have a physical presence at the building for Head Start families to receive coordinated support from both Head Start as well as GCSC. The District will attempt to have private and other community preschools present for the same support. Public and private/community preschool staff will also be able to collaborate at these parent events to share information, coordinate curricula, and more.