

Independence School District John W. Luff Elementary School Parent Involvement Policy and Plan

The Board of Education, recognizing the positive effects of parents/families' involvement in the education of their children, has established a district Parent Involvement Policy which can be found in the Luff Handbook. The Board also recognizes the importance of parental involvement with the Title I program and provides a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education and Title I programming.

Some opportunities for Parent Involvement at Luff during 2014-15 include the following:

1. **Communication**

Receive written communications, with translations if necessary, including:

- **Luff Parent Handbook:** Identifies school and district procedures.
- **Luff Times:** Weekly publication of important notices, upcoming events, clubs, field trips, etc.
- **Classroom newsletters:** Information on curriculum, activities and projects in the classroom.
- **Agenda/Folder notes:** Notes about your student or the day's events sent in the agenda or folder.
- **Event Flyers:** Information on district, school, or PTA sponsored events for you and your family.
- **Phone calls and Personal notes:** Teacher contact with parents via phone, note or e-mail as need arises. Parents may contact the school and teachers via e-mail or voice-mail during the school day.
- **Automated Phone Calls:** For special events or notices such as school events, snow days, etc.
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Held in October and February for all parents and their students.

Receive information regarding student progress including:

- **Work Folders/Agendas:** Classroom work sent home periodically for parents to look over. Comments in work folders or agendas give information on academic or behavioral progress.
- **Student Progress Reports:** Regular progress reports for all students sent home at the end of each quarter. Students **may** also receive a mid-term report if areas of academic concern arise.
- **Assessment data:** Information on district or other assessments such as MAP, STAR, Accelerated Reading, etc. May be sent home or made available during parent-teacher conferences.

2. Shared Responsibility for Student Learning

Parents can volunteer to help in several ways:

- *Help plan or work at PTA sponsored events*
- *Participate in the Watch Dog Dads program*
- *Listen to children read*
- *Be a room parent to help plan class parties*
- *Chaperone field trips, etc.*

***Please Note:** *Some volunteer positions, such as chaperoning field trips, or working with children require a background check which may take 6-8 weeks to complete. Please contact the office for more information.*

Parents can participate in shared decision making by:

- **Serving on a PTA committee:** *Contact PTA president, Allyson Colt*
- **Serving on the Title I Planning/Review Team:** *Contact Dana O'Renck, Title I Reading Specialist, 816-521-5415 ext. 47033, dana_orenick@isdschools.org*
- **Signing and Supporting the Partnership for Success- Home and School Agreement:** *a document which outlines the responsibilities the school, parent and student each have to facilitate student achievement.*
- **Completing the Parent Survey:** *a survey sent home in March or April requesting parent input into program effectiveness, parent involvement activities, etc.*

3. Building Parent Capacity for Involvement

Opportunities for parents to learn more about what their child is learning and ways to support them at home include:

- **Parent/Child Interaction Activities** *such as: Family Learning Nights, Meet the Teacher Night, etc.*
- **Materials sent home for family interaction and learning at home** *such as books or activities checked out from the Media Center, classroom, or Title I.*
- **Parent workshops related to student learning** *such as: Curriculum Night*
- **"Reading Connection" newsletter:** *Sent home monthly; contains tips and information on reading and writing.*

