

Gateway MST Elementary School

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2021-2022



Gateway MST Elementary School recognizes that parent(s)/guardian, families, schools, and community share the responsibility for the education of our children. Creating positive home, school, and community/partnerships is vital to successfully carrying out this shared responsibility. Ongoing collaboration between all school personnel and parents/guardians is essential to support student learning. School personnel encourages and involve parents/guardians by providing a variety of opportunities for participation, while recognizing and respecting the diverse needs of families in their community.

Strategies for Involvement

- ✦ Gateway Elementary will host PTO, F.A.C.E. and special activities/programs such as Smart & Secure (parents and students are taught about healthy living) to encourage parents to participate and have input in the family engagement planning and school-wide planning.
- ✦ All meetings will be held virtually on zoom in order to follow CDC social distancing guidelines.
- ✦ The school will also send out flyers, newsletters, robo calls, and hold monthly parent meetings to collaborate and keep parents informed.

- ✦ Gateway Elementary will hold an annual Title I meeting (to be held by September 23rd) to inform parents of Gateway Elementary participation in Title I programs. We will explain all of the Title I mandates including: Parent's Right to Know, Every Student Succeeds Act, Complaint Resolution Procedures, and the Title I Parental Involvement Plan. Our Principal, (Mrs. Karen Austin-Lindsey), Asst. Principal (Mrs. Chavon Hopgood) and Family & Community Specialist, (Ms. Yvette Mullins), will host this meeting. We will conduct a second Title I meeting in the second semester for families to receive the same information.

- ✦ Gateway Elementary will hold PTO meetings on the second (2nd) Wednesday of every month. Involved parents along with any participating school staff will share ideas and collaborate for school improvement. The PTO will assist the Principal with all fundraising efforts. All funds raised from fundraising efforts will in return be used as needed for school/building improvements not covered by already allocated funds.

- ✚ Gateway Elementary will provide parents an opportunity to participate in the evaluating, revising, and/or amending of the Parent Involvement Plan and the Three-Way Compact. These meetings will be held in the month of March of each school year and our Principal, (Mrs. Karen Austin-Lindsey), Asst. Principal (Mrs. Chavon Hopgood), and Family and Community Specialist, (Ms. Yvette Mullins), will host these meetings. Prior to these meetings, parents and stakeholders will receive the current plans and all updated Title I mandates to review.
- ✚ Virtual/Online training will be provided to assist with completing applications, create resumes or receive additional assistance from Family Community Specialist.
- ✚ Parents that register for the Parent Portal will have open access to their students' grades and any comments from teachers.

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Achievement

Gateway Elementary administration will work toward retaining highly qualified principals and teachers for all class rooms, provide instruction, materials, and high quality professional development which incorporates the latest research. Gateway Elementary will maintain a safe and positive climate, and encourage frequent communication between home, school and students, by doing the following:

- ✚ Prepare a yearly assessment folder for each student with a list of homework, work examples, and test data.
- ✚ Explain instructional goals and grading system to parents. (Virtual/ In person)
- ✚ Maintain a safe and positive school climate.
- ✚ Communicate and collaborate with parents to ensure each scholars achievement.
- ✚ Participate in professional development for best practices in teaching.
- ✚ Hold annual meetings to inform parents of their school's participation in Title 1, explain Title 1 requirements, and explain parent's right to be involved.

Hold annual Parent-Teacher Conferences to:

- ✚ Discuss the scholar's progress/grade during the quarter.
- ✚ Discuss this compact as it relates to the scholar's achievement.
- ✚ Examine the scholar's achievement and any pending options at the end of the third quarter.

Provide parents with frequent reports on their scholar's progress as follow:

- ✚ Use class Dojo to communicate with parents regarding scholar's progress.
- ✚ Encourage all parents/guardian(s) to monitor Teams page for virtual learning.
- ✚ Monthly suggestions from the classroom teacher.

Be accessible to parents through:

- ✦ Phone calls, letters, email, Class Dojo. (Virtual meetings).
- ✦ Scheduling one-on-one meetings with parents before and after school.(Virtual or in person when CDC permits)
- ✦ Scheduling school or home visits. (When CDC permits)

Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their scholar's class, and observe classroom activities as follows:

- ✦ Listen to children read aloud.
- ✦ Help with classroom activities and projects, etc. through virtual learning.
- ✦ Present a virtual program on culture, a different country, etc.
- ✦ Participate in educational trips (Virtual field trips).
- ✦ Volunteer and participate in fundraisers each quarter at your scholar's school.

Family and Community Specialist will disseminate the newsletter/calendars to staff to pass on to their respective students.


- ✓ Gateway Elementary teachers will have high expectations for all students; they will assign homework daily and provide information for student achievement. (They will provide enriching learning environments for both virtual an in-person learning).
- ✓ Gateway Elementary parents will talk to their children about activities each day, help their scholar resolve conflicts in a positive (non-violent) way, foster high regards for academic achievement, seek information regarding their scholar's progress by conferring with the teacher, attend parent teacher conferences and all other meetings concerning the progress of your scholar's; an encourage their scholar to follow all school rules and regulations.
- ✓ Gateway Elementary students will attend school every day (unless they are ill); be active in their learning, complete assignments and return homework on time, accept responsibility for their actions, listen well in class and follow directions, be respectful and use self-control.


Expanding Opportunities for Parental Involvement

Gateway Elementary Parent Involvement Plan, established in collaboration with parents, includes programs and practices that will enhance parental involvement and reflects the specific needs of students and their families. The Parental Involvement Plan involves the parent in a variety of roles. The plan recognizes that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful. To encourage this communication, Gateway Elementary has a Family and Community Specialist onsite so parents can receive all information needed. Ms. Yvette Mullins's office is located on

second floor in room 218 and she is available Monday- Friday 8:00AM- 3:00PM to answer any questions you may have regarding parental involvement in the building. Office number is (314) 241-8255

It is the goal of Gateway Elementary to assure an ongoing partnership between families, communities, and the school. We believe such a partnership is fundamental to the academic and social success of students. From this partnership a support will evolve that will have a positive effect on student achievement and will produce a sense of cooperative responsibility in ensuring excellence in the educational process.

Parent Signature  Date 9/23/2021

Principal Signature  Date 9/23/2021