

OVERTON COUNTY SCHOOLS Parent/Family Involvement Plan

Overton County School System encourages each parent to become more involved in the education of his/her child. Studies show that a student's achievement is higher when his/her parents are actively involved in their education. Parents can be involved and informed about the education of their child in many ways in our system.

- The Overton County School Board has adopted a parent involvement policy developed by teachers, parents, and administrators. This policy can be found in section three of the policy manual (#3040), which is available at each school, the system administration building, and on the system website (<http://www.overtoncountyschools.net>).
- The following plan has been developed in accordance with the aforementioned school board policy, as well as guidelines found in No Child Left Behind and Title I. This Family Involvement Plan is considered an ongoing project and will be annually reviewed and updated as necessary.

DISTRICT ROLE

1. The District Parent Involvement Plan will be developed by the Family Engagement Advisory Council. Parents will be represented on the advisory council. The district plan will be reviewed annually by the Family Engagement Advisory Council and updated as necessary.
2. Overton County website will promote parent involvement by providing parents with information regarding curriculum information for each grade level, school board policies, schedule changes, school/system calendar, and contact information for district and school administration. In addition, parents may access each school's website through this portal.
3. The district will build parent and school capacity of strong parent involvement by visiting, discussing, and training school advisory teams, parent groups, and school faculty groups in best practices for parent involvement. All programs under the jurisdiction of the Overton County School System, such as School Guidance Counselors and Coordinated School Health, will be involved with parent involvement programs at the system and school levels.
4. The results of annual evaluations and other assessment and input data such as parent surveys will be used to improve or redesign the contents of the parent involvement plan.
5. Barriers that prevent parents from participating in activities will be identified and addressed at the system and school levels. Such barriers may include: economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited English proficient, limited literacy, racial, or ethnic minority.
6. The district will provide academic tools to parents to assist their child, such as Parent Guides to the Curriculum, after-school remediation, and flexible scheduling of meetings.

7. Each school will present a parent involvement plan to the system. Technical assistance at the system level will be provided to the individual schools regarding the individual school plans.

SCHOOL ROLE

1. Each school will jointly develop with parents a written parent involvement plan which establishes that school's expectations for parent involvement. Each school will:
 - a. Include in the plan a description of how parents have been involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning and review of the parent involvement plan. In order to assess effectiveness, this plan will be periodically updated and redistributed to parents and stakeholders.
 - b. Each school will have parent organizations such as PTA/PTO/ PTSA as well as a variety of booster clubs that support programs from fine arts to academics to athletics.
 - c. Address communication between the home and school in the plan, describing how parents will be provided timely information about parent involvement programs.
 - d. Describe in the plan how the school provides parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum, academic assessment, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - e. Distribute the written school level Parent Involvement Plan to parents and the local community. The distribution should be in a language understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, provided in a language parents can understand.
 - f. School website will be maintained with current information and guidance.
 - g. School staff will receive training to increase their effectiveness in communication skills.
 - h. Provide for parent comments not in agreement with the plan to be submitted to the School System Administration.
2. Each Title I school shall convene an annual meeting to which all parents are invited to attend and share input, and in which the following will be explained:
 - a. Title I programs and activities carried out with Title I funds
 - b. Title I parent involvement requirements
 - c. Curriculum available under Title I
 - d. Academic assessments and proficiency levels of students required under Title I

Each school will convene meetings at varying times and take reasonable actions to support parental attendance.

Each school committee will keep minutes of each meeting or agendas for large meetings.
3. Each school will have a Parent Involvement Advisory Team.
 - a. Each school team will have parents and school staff as representatives.
 - b. Parents on the team will have input into the planning, design, and implementation of the school Title I Program.

4. Each school will develop a Parent-School Compact. The goal of the compact is to build a partnership between the home and school to assist students to meet high standards.
 - a. The compact will outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and how the school and parents will develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.
 - b. The compact will describe how parents will be responsible for supporting their child's learning.
 - c. The compact will address the importance of ongoing communication between home and school.
5. Each school will provide for regular teacher-parent conferences. At least one parent conference opportunity will be offered during each school year to discuss the child's progress and placement.
6. Each school will report student progress to parents as follows:
 - a. report cards to be sent home every nine weeks
 - b. updated mid nine weeks reports sent home during each of the grading periods.
 - c. TCAP academic achievement testing results sent home every year
 - d. Tennessee State Report Card for each school will be sent home annually
7. Each school will provide assistance to parents in understanding such topics as:
 - a. state academic content standards
 - b. state student academic achievement standards
 - c. state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - d. how to monitor a child's progress
 - e. how to work with educators to improve the achievement of a child
 - f. the requirements of the parent involvement plan
8. Each school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement
9. Each school will provide information to parents in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parent can understand.
10. Each school will provide other reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents may request.
11. Each school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, McKinney-Vento (homeless), and migrant in school parent involvement activities whenever and wherever practicable.