

# Woodworth Elementary School

## Parent Involvement Policy and Plan

2021-2022



### Strategies to Increase Parental Involvement

There are high expectations for parents, families, and community members to become partners in education at Woodworth Elementary. We invite and welcome parents into the building and request that they be involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation of our school-wide plans. We believe that by utilizing community resources it will strengthen our school programs and families; ultimately improving overall school achievement.

### Parent Involvement Committees

- **Parent Teacher Organization:** This group is an organization of parents and teachers that meet monthly. The PTO sponsors assistance to teachers and other staff members, raises funds for supplemental educational materials and experiences, supports school and family social interaction, and provides a non-biased forum for sharing information on issues that impact our children.
- **School Improvement/Title 1 Committee:** Parents are invited to become directly involved in this committee to help examine school-wide data, discuss strategies, and implement plans for school improvement. This committee reviews programming through Title 1, as well as evaluates the program's overall effectiveness.
- **Volunteering/Visiting:** Woodworth Elementary encourages and welcomes parent volunteers. There are a variety of opportunities to volunteer at Woodworth such as assisting on our playground, chaperoning field trips, tutoring students, and/or copying classroom materials for teachers.

## **Parent Teacher Compact**

The Student/Parent/Teacher Compact is an agreement between the parties to uphold their responsibilities in building an effective school community. Each family is given a new compact at the first parent teacher conference in December. Compacts are signed and sent home with families. They are reviewed and revised each year by the School Improvement/Title 1 Committee with the input from staff, parents, and students.

## **Parent-Teacher Conferences & Report Cards**

Parents may schedule an appointment with the principal and/or teachers concerning the progress and welfare of their child at any time. Phone conferences are also encouraged by both parents and teachers to keep the home/school communication lines open for the benefit of the student. Email and text messaging are other tools that can be used by parents and teachers to keep in regular contact. Power School is the online grade book that can be accessed by parents at home to monitor their child's attendance and academic records.

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled twice a year (October & March). Report cards are sent home three times a year (December, March, June). Over the years, teachers have worked to modify report cards to make them parent friendly.

## **Parent Communication**

Woodworth uses assorted media and correspondence to provide parents with information. Woodworth is committed to providing the tools and training needed for teachers to communicate effectively with parents. Some of the forms of communication that are used by Woodworth teachers and parents are the following:

- **Woodworth Elementary School Student Handbook-** This handbook has important information on all aspects of our school. Parents were given paper copies and can view or download it from the website.
- **Leslie Public Schools Website-** The school district created and maintains a website where parents can learn about events and activities taking place at Woodworth. It also includes web resources for parents, a school calendar, and contact information for all the staff members.
- **Woodworth Elementary Newsletter-** Woodworth has a monthly newsletter that goes home with each student. It includes up and coming events, parent tips on how to support their child's education, general information about what's happening at school, and contact numbers for questions.

- **An automated calling system-** The district uses an automated calling system to keep parents informed of upcoming events. It is also used to quickly contact parents in the case of changes to any scheduled event.
- **Power school-** This online grade book is accessible to all parents from home.
- **Classroom Newsletters-** Many classroom teachers send a weekly or bi-weekly newsletter to parents informing them about classroom learning activities, upcoming field trips, home assignments, etc...
- **PTO Newsletters-** These newsletters go home on a regular basis with news about PTO fundraisers, family activities, and other PTO business.
- **Telephone-** Parents and teachers often communicate through phone calls. Our school phone number is 517-589-5151. The Title 1 room is extension #204.
- **Email-** Parents and teachers exchange email addresses in order to communicate about students, assignments, etc...
- **Facebook-** Some teachers have created Facebook pages where parents can see pictures of the students interacting in class.
- **Classroom Websites-** Many teachers have created classroom websites that parents can visit to see pictures of their children, get assignments, messages, news, etc...
- **Parent Survey-** Every year, a parent survey is conducted to gather input from parents about the school and our programs. This information assists in creating the goals for the school improvement plan.
- **School Sign-** The sign in front of the school posts daily events, birthdays, announcements, etc...

## Let's Get Together

- **Family Fun Activities-** Woodworth currently hosts several fun family activity nights, including the Mother/Son and Daddy/Daughter Dances, Lugnuts' Family Night, Family Literacy Night, Family Math Night, School Carnival, Muffins for Moms and Donuts for Dads.
- **Parent Trainings-** Trainings and other activities focus on assisting parents in the understanding of child development, child rearing, and ways to assist their child with academics. Parent trainings/workshops are advertised with specific information such as titles of sessions, presenters, and dates.

**Annual Title 1 Meeting-** An annual parent meeting open to the community, where current curriculum and assessment information is disseminated and discussed. Title 1 rights will be presented at this meeting, along with the School Improvement/Title 1 plan.