

Dresden Elementary
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
2023-2024

The Dresden Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly and agreed on by families of participating Title 1 children. Welcoming all families into the school community, parent group meetings are held periodically to review this policy, as well as school wide programs, and to make necessary revisions as deemed appropriate. Names of individuals involved in the development and maintenance of this policy are documented in the school parent and family engagement notebook. The parent and family engagement plan is distributed to all families and is also available to the local community via the school website. To the extent practicable, translations are also available upon request in order to provide full opportunities for the participation of families with limited English proficiency.

Comments concerning dissatisfaction with this policy, or any other school policy, are documented. It is the goal of Dresden Elementary to encourage families and school staff in regular, meaningful communication about student learning in a continuous effort to support student success. We strive to provide an atmosphere that is not only conducive to learning, but one that also fosters within our students a desire to attend school regularly and arrive on time. We aim to engage more families by offering flexible meeting times including conducting some meetings by email. It is our goal at Dresden Elementary to build capacity for family engagement by providing access to educational website links and other pertinent training tools that support the enhancement of literacy as well as technology, as requested.

An annual “Open House” is held for students and their families to become familiar with our school environment and form a communication connection with teachers and staff. This meeting is scheduled with a flexible time frame to allow more families the opportunity to attend. During this meeting, families are urged to work continuously together with teachers to support students’ learning and healthy development not only at school, but also at home. Families are also urged to be involved in open communication with teachers to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success. The teachers and staff at Dresden Elementary believe in the value and contribution of families and work with them to help them become equal partners with equal representation in decisions and programs that ensure student success.

Additional events and meetings are provided where families receive timely information explaining curriculum, forms of assessment used to measure student progress and proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Assistance is provided to families in understanding topics such as the State’s academic content standards, State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, how to monitor a child’s progress and work with educators to improve student achievement. Dresden Elementary hosts an annual Title 1 meeting. This meeting informs families about their right to be involved and gives them a voice in how Title 1 funding should be spent.

Dresden Elementary offers a wide array of extracurricular activities that provide opportunities to learn both inside and outside the classroom. Such activities offer expanded learning opportunities, community service, and civic participation for families and school staff to work together with community leaders.

Tennessee Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Dresden Elementary School believes and embraces the following standards, as adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010:

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community -Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class and school.

Standard 2: Communicating effectively -Families and school staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about student learning.

Standard 3: Supporting student success -Families and school staff continuously work together to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

Standard 4: Speaking up for every child -Families are informed and enabled to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support success.

Standard 5: Sharing power -Families and school staff are equal partners with equal representation in decisions that affect students and families and together inform, influence and create policies, practices, and programs.

Standard 6: Collaborating with community -Families and school staff work together with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.