



# Cottonwood Elementary School

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## **Title 1 Parent/Family Engagement Policy**

Cottonwood Elementary is committed to providing a quality education for every child. Parent and family engagement is a key element in our Title I program. All parents/family in our school are invited to participate in school activities and assist in the classroom. The goals of our parent/family engagement policy and activities are: increased parent/family participation in the program, increased parent/family engagement at home, and increased parental/family awareness of educational practices and issues.

### **Annual Title 1 Meeting**

Cottonwood Elementary will hold its annual Title 1 meeting at Parent Teacher Conference. At this meeting, parents/family will receive information about the Title 1 program and our school's participation, including the rights of parents/family to be engaged. Items to be discussed include:

- Services provided by Title 1, including a description of the program and how our school qualifies.
- The ways in which parents/family will be informed in a timely manner of their child's participation in the program and services their child will be receiving.
- Various parent/family engagement activities held throughout the school year and ways in which the school will inform parents/family of these activities.
- Information on the state's academic standards and the assessments that will be used to measure student progress.
- The School-Parent-Family-Learning compact and their opportunity to give input.
- The ways in which the school will inform them of these things and who to contact with questions, concerns, or input in any of the items previously mentioned.

### **Planning And Input**

Parents and family members of students who attend Cottonwood Elementary will be given the opportunity to plan, review and improve our Parent/Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent-Family Learning Compact, and targeted assistance Title 1 Plan through our School Community Council. The council will review these items each year and give input and approval. Parents and family are also welcome to give input at the office, to the Title I teacher and also on the needs assessment survey that is sent home in the spring.

## **Parent/Family Activities**

Parent/family activities will be held at different times throughout the day or with extended duration to help accommodate the needs of parents/family. Parents and family will be informed of activities through our monthly bulletin, school website, school marquee, and automated phone/text messages from our principal. We will also ensure that information related to school programs, policies, meetings and other activities is sent to the parents/family in a language they can understand.

We encourage parent/family engagement through our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Through participation in PTO, parents and families have the opportunity to become engaged in organizing activities that promote a safe and positive learning environment.

The Title 1 staff will provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve achievement in reading and math.

We will also work with other organizations, including Emery County Sheriff's Office, and the Emery County Local Interagency Council, within the community to provide various parenting workshops. By forming a partnership with parents, families, the community, and these organizations, we will be able to improve student academic achievement.

## **Parent/Family Meetings**

Because we are a targeted assistance Title 1 school, parents/family of identified students will also be informed of their child's progress in a timely manner through conferences, progress reports, report cards, phone calls, and notes sent home. Information sent home will be in a language and form that parents/family can understand.

Cottonwood Elementary will provide, if requested by parents/family, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

The school will also provide assistance in understanding the state's academic standards and local assessments through; back-to-school night, notes sent home, reviewing individual student scores, at parent-family-student-teacher conferences, and at parent/family request.

## **Working Together**

We want to ensure parent/family engagement and form a supportive partnership between parents, family and our school at Cottonwood Elementary. This Parent/Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly between the school and parents/family to help ensure this. We believe this will help improve student academic achievement. We will survey parents/family members to find ways that they feel they can be valued and useful partners in their children's education and contribute to our school.

## **School-Parent-Family Learning Compact**

Cottonwood Elementary has a School-Parent-Family Learning Compact that will be jointly reviewed annually by parents/family and staff. This compact outlines how parents, family members, the school staff and students share in the responsibility for improved student achievement. Parents and family members have the opportunity to be involved in updating this compact each year through involvement on the School Community Council or by contacting the office or Title I teacher and giving their input.

For more information or to give input on this policy, please contact Mr. John Hughes, Title I Coordinator. Parents and families are also welcome to give input.