

## ***Gideon School District #37***

### ***Parent and Family Engagement Plan***

It is the goal of the Gideon School District to create a partnership between parents, children, and the school. The Board of Education believes the education of each student is a shared responsibility between the school and the family. By working as a team, we can help students succeed.

This plan is designed to help facilitate the involvement of parents with their child's over-all educational experiences. The school's mission is to help provide those opportunities. The Gideon School District will utilize the Advisory Council consisting of parents, administrators and teachers who serve on the district-wide school advisory committee. The council shall meet a minimum of at least two times annually. The district and schools recognize the essential role of parental involvement in the process of planning and providing input and insight to provide the best possible services and programs. Therefore, the district/school will arrange meetings to provide opportunities for parents to become involved in the design and implementation of the school-wide program.

#### **Goals for Parent Involvement:**

1. Encourage two-way communication fostering educational support for students and families.
2. Provide activities for parents to strengthen their educational understanding of their child's needs intellectually and developmentally.
3. Promote cooperation between district and other agencies or school/community groups such as Parents as Teachers, Head Start, or other public preschool programs.
4. Inform families about involvement opportunities.
5. Provide access to educational resources for parents/families to utilize with their children.
6. Keep families informed of district educational objectives as well as student participation and progress.
7. Allow opportunities for parents to provide input and feedback on current programs, policies, routines, or procedures.

#### **Parental Involvement Opportunities:**

1. An introductory meeting will be held shortly after the start of each school year in order to explain the Title I school wide program and requirements of state and federal educational policies and curriculum offerings.
2. Timely information about program and meetings will be provided in order for the parents and migrant parents may have an opportunity to participate and offer suggestions in a more effective manner.
3. Teachers will be available to meet with parents throughout the year to discuss student progress and offer suggestions to parents for encouraging and assisting their children at home.

4. Information will be provided throughout the year to encourage, assist, and train parents in ways to help children at home.
5. In the fall, parents will be invited to attend an Open House, where teachers will be available to discuss students programs. Information on student activities as well as strategies and/or ideas for parents and migrant parents on how they assist in improving their child's learning will be included. Parents will share with the teacher the strengths and weaknesses of their child/children.
6. Evaluation of the Parent Involvement Policy will be ongoing. An open discussion will be included in the second Advisory Council meeting to review and revise the plan.
7. The district will provide opportunities for parents and teacher to communicate on student progress through student planners, bi-annual parent/teacher conferences, quarterly progress reports, and as otherwise requested by the parent/guardian conferences.
8. Parents will be provided continuous positive encouragement and feedback from school personnel. All communication with parents, written and face-to-face, will support the philosophy of the critical role parents play in their child's education and every opportunity to express this belief will be communicated in a positive manner.
9. Teachers will make every effort to ensure parents understand they are an integral part of the education of their children and will display this belief through actively working and communicating with the child and their parents on a regular basis.
10. The Gideon School District will promote parental involvement and participation in promoting the social, emotional, and academic growth of all children. Recognition programs will honor and display student accomplishments in academics and collaboration on student/parent accomplishments. Recognition will be given to parents who make an outstanding effort to monitor, volunteer and participate in their child's education.

**Additional "Parental Involvement" Opportunities:**

The following are additional activities or resources available to all students and families attending Gideon School District:

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| • Meet the Teacher Night  | * Parent/Teacher Conferences                |
| • Award Ceremonies        | * Musical Programs                          |
| • Art Programs            | * Book Fair                                 |
| • Field Trips             | *Grandparents Day                           |
| • Red Ribbon Week         | * PreK/Kdg/6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation |
| • Read with the Residents | *Website/Social Media                       |