

Hiawatha Elementary School Parent Involvement Policy

Hiawatha Elementary School believes in the importance of good communication between the home and school in building a successful learning environment for all students. It is our desire to provide multiple opportunities for parents, students and school staff to establish strong, meaningful and lasting connections.

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that parents:

- play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.*
- are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.*
- are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.*

This Parent Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with parents, teachers and the School Site Council/BLT.

PART I. SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Hiawatha Elementary School has involved the parents of participating students in the joint development and agreement of its School Parent Involvement Policy in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner:

- **Hiawatha Elementary School** holds meetings to plan for the improvement of the Title I program.
- After annual elections are done for PTA and BLT, a review of the monthly meeting times and dates are agreed on and a monthly calendar is developed.
- The Parent Involvement Policy will be made available to local community agencies that request a copy.
- During the spring semester of every school year, the school will collaborate with the BLT to review the Parent Involvement Policy.
- **Hiawatha Elementary School** will provide parents of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- **Hiawatha Elementary School** will provide opportunities for parents to make suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to their child's education, (i.e. BLT meetings, PTA meetings and Parent surveys).

PART II: RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Hiawatha Elementary School will provide a supportive and effective learning environment with high standards of conduct for all students.

- **Hiawatha Elementary School** will provide student centered instruction based on New York State Standards, district curriculum, and research-based methodologies to address all learning styles and modalities.
- **Hiawatha Elementary School** staff will maintain regular communication with parents about their student's academic progress and the school's behavior expectations; frequent progress reports are sent to parents.
- **Hiawatha Elementary School** will provide parents with reasonable access to staff through formal parent/teacher conferences and opportunities to volunteer on the school campus.

Hiawatha Elementary School parents will ensure that their child attends school on time every day prepared to learn and has appropriate sleep, nutrition, clothing and school supplies.

- Parents will monitor homework completion; and collaborate with teachers, counselors and school staff in decisions relating to their child's education.
- Parents will set positive behavior and attire expectations and reinforce school policies about respecting people and property.

Hiawatha Elementary School students will take responsibility for their learning by coming to class on time and in full disposition to learn, behave and cooperate with their teachers and peers.

- **Hiawatha Elementary School** students will maximize opportunities to understand the subject area material, using strategies that best support their learning style and completing and returning their assignments on time.

Hiawatha Elementary School students will dress appropriately and behave responsibly by respecting the personal rights and property of themselves and others.

PART III. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

Hiawatha Elementary School, under the Title I mandate, is committed to building parent involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities:

- **Hiawatha Elementary School** will provide formal parent conferences at least one time a year. At these meetings, parents are provided with information regarding their child's progress towards proficiency in the state academic achievement standards.
- **Hiawatha Elementary School** will provide information on student mastery of the state content standards and progress through report cards, state and local assessment results, portfolios, and work samples.
- **Hiawatha Elementary School** provides materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as Curriculum Night and Orientation meetings.
- The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, disseminate information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, in an understandable format, and in a language, the parents can understand.

-All school information is sent home via student, standard mail, school web site, or the school's phone master system.

PART IV. ACCESSIBILITY

Hiawatha Elementary School will provide opportunities for participation by parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, Title I parents, and parents of homeless students. This includes providing information and school reports in a format, and when possible, in a language such parents understand.