

Gravette Middle School Parent & Family Engagement Policy 2023-24

Gravette Middle School (GMS) understands the importance of involving parents and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, GMS shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to:

1. Involve parents and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school;
2. Have a coordinated involvement program where the involvement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs;
3. Explain to parents and the community the State's content and achievement standards. Explain state and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the school to improve their child's academic achievement;
4. Provide parents with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training to parents;
5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent and family engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents;

6. Keep parents informed about parent and family engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communications shall be, to the extent practical, in a language the parent can understand;
7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents from being involved in their child's education. This may include arranging meetings at a variety of times and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
8. Find and modify other successful parent and family engagement programs to suit the needs of our school;
9. Provide reasonable support for other parent and family engagement activities as parents may reasonably request.

To help promote an understanding of each party's role in improving student learning, GMS shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students, and the school staff in raising student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

GMS shall convene an annual meeting, or several meetings at varying times if necessary to adequately reach parents of participating students, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, its requirements regarding parental involvement, and the parent's right to be involved in the education of their child.

GMS shall, at least annually, involve parents in reviewing the school's Title I program and parental involvement policy in order to help ensure their continued improvement - held this school year on Sept. 20, 2023.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practical, in a language the parents can understand.

The GMS Parent and Family Engagement Committee for 2022-24 are Mike Walker, Erin Easley, Nicole Landon, Amy Stallings, Amanda Mellers, Chelsea Melton, Melanie Nichols, and Taos Jones.

Legal References: Title I and Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).