

Gettysburg Area School District – James Gettys Elementary School Parent Involvement Policy

The James Gettys Elementary School is committed to the belief that all children can learn and acknowledges that parents share our school's commitment to the education success of their children. We define parent involvement as an ongoing partnership that assists families in meeting their obligation as their child's first teacher, promotes dialogue between home and school, and supports parents as leaders and decision makers at all levels of the education of their children. The active involvement of parents in the school promotes increased student achievement as measured by our district assessments.

James Gettys Elementary School recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family working in partnership. All parents will be invited to "Back to School Night" early in the school year. This evening will inform parents of the curriculum, types of assessments used to monitor progress, and the expected proficiency levels. If students qualify for extra support such as Title I, English Language Learners or learning support, their parents will be invited to an annual meeting to familiarize them with these services. Parents are also sent letters informing them of their child's intervention need. All parents are invited to PTO meetings throughout the year, family nights, planning sessions and other math and literacy programs that are provided at the school. Activities planned but not limited to are: Polar Express Reading Night, Math Game Night, Experiencing Cultures that Influence PA, Sports Related Story Telling Night, and Science Fair. All parents will be invited to a family breakfast followed by a short powerpoint presentation outlining our intervention plan and Title I services.

Parent input is an important component of our Parent Involvement Policy. A parent survey will be sent home twice a year, once at parent conferences in the fall and once at midyear after students have been assessed using midyear benchmarks. This midyear data will be shared with parents through parent conferences, parent phone calls, and parent letters.

All parents are required to attend a parent teacher conference in the fall for grades 1-5. Parents of kindergarten students are required to attend a parent teacher conference at midyear. Their child's progress will be shared at this conference. Parent conferences are offered during day hours as well as evening hours so that parents are able to attend regardless of work schedules.

A committee involving teachers, parents, and administration will be formed at the beginning of each year. Parents will be given the opportunity to give input on the schoolwide Title I Plan.

The school will keep parents informed of their rights and responsibilities as educational partners. Whole school and individual student achievement will be shared with parents in a concise and easy to understand manner. Progress will be clearly communicated through ongoing parent-teacher dialogue. If parents require transportation assistance in order to attend school functions, the school may provide transportation as deemed necessary.