

Center Road School Parent Involvement Guidelines

The mission of Center Road School is to provide all students with a foundation of skills for lifelong learning, which will enable them to function effectively within a changing society. Students will develop a sense of individual worth, a respect for diversity, and the ability to think independently, creatively, and critically. This will be accomplished through collaboration among students, staff, parents, and community in an accepting nurturing environment with an emphasis on high expectations for all.

We offer these parent involvement guidelines as a vehicle to help us accomplish our mission. The following outline is in compliance with the legal requirements of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 (PL 107-110, Section 1118). This document was prepared with input provided by teachers, parents, and building administrators. The guidelines will be available to all parents/guardians at Center Road School as part of the Parent Handbook.

- A. Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to provide input into the development of Center Road School's Parent Involvement Guidelines, to review it annually, and to revise as needed to meet the changing needs of students, staff, and parents.
 - The Parent Involvement Guidelines will be incorporated into the Parent Handbook and sent home at the beginning of each school year.
 - A committee will be formed in the spring of each year to review and revise (if necessary) the Parent Involvement Guidelines.
 - Revisions will be shared at an appropriate PTO meeting.

- B. Parents/guardians and teachers will be provided support as they implement parent involvement.
 - Monthly PTO meetings will be held.
 - Parents of kindergarten students will receive an invitation to the first PTO meeting of the year as a means of introducing them to the PTO and welcoming them to our school community.
 - Building administrator will communicate regularly with the PTO president(s) to discuss ways to expand and encourage parent participation. Information from these discussions will be shared at the following PTO meeting.
 - Conferences for teachers and parents aimed at enhancing the school – family – community partnership will be encouraged and allowed.
 - A section of the Center Road School library will provide current, reputable parent literature/materials.
 - Information through computer technology will be available at the school and PTO website.

- C. In order to build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, Center Road School will:
- Invite parents to volunteer by assisting in classrooms, helping in the library, and providing leadership with PTO sponsored events.
 - Encourage parents to attend special events, both during the day and in the evening.
 - Provide opportunities for parents/guardians to chaperone field trips.
 - Set up convenient times for parent/teacher conferences and other meetings. This will include evening conference times twice a year.
 - Hold annual Open Houses where teachers will discuss the curriculum and/or written curriculum information will be made available.
 - Provide parents with an up to date Center Road School Parent Handbook containing information about policies and programs.
 - Publish a monthly school newsletter, which includes a calendar of events at our school and an insert provided by the PTO
 - Hold monthly PTO meetings where childcare will be provided to enable parents to attend.
 - Provide materials to help parents/guardians understand what they can do to support their child's motivation and readiness to learn, including summer activity packets, the Governor's Summer Reading Program, and Kindergarten Orientation Night.
 - Provide a means for ongoing daily teacher/parent communication via daily assignment books, sheets, or e-mail.
 - Maintain an open door policy.
- D. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with other programs and initiatives.
- Second Step Anti-bullying Program
 - Character Education
 - Community Mentor Program
 - Vernon Reads
 - Headstart
 - Vernon Youth Services Bureau programs
 - Collaborate with other organizations and agencies that serve the interests and needs of students and their families
- E. Parents will participate in an annual discussion of the effectiveness of the Center Road School Parental Involvement Policy. Discussion will take place at a PTO meeting and will include:
- How to increase parent involvement
 - Ways to overcome barriers which may limit participation for those who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited literacy, have limited English proficiency, or are of any racial/ethnic minority background.

We value the role parents and guardians play as their children's first teacher, and the influences of their continued support to promote higher student academic achievement and to foster a climate of respect and a feeling of community within Center Road School.