

SCHOOL PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

DISTRICT-DEWITT

DEWITT MIDDLE SCHOOL

School Improvement Status-Achieving

Grade Levels-6-8

Parent Involvement Coordinator - Courtney Barnett

Parent Involvement Committee Members:

Rachel Mitchell- Principal

Cecilia Odaware -Literacy Coach

Laura Beth Place-Math & Science Coach

Jacqueline Duncan - Resource teacher

Emily Fisher - Family and Consumer Science Investigations/Career Development

Joli Holzhauer - Parent Advisory

Barry Barnett- Community Representative/Advisor

1. The school website is available for parents to access homework/test assignments, grades can be accessed by PIN numbers assigned at the beginning of school. Parents and teachers can email each other concerning students. Open house will be held at the beginning of the year to distribute information concerning students. Letters will be sent home as needed to help inform parents of workshops and meetings. Information will be given to the local newspapers and radio stations to distribute information about meetings, workshops, and dates of interest. Report cards will be distributed every 4 weeks regarding the academic progress of students. Our school operates a DMS Facebook page to keep parents, students, and community members updated with current events. Announcements scroll on a tv screen during class changes. DMS announcements are posted on the school's website for easy access to current events.

2. The school will hold open houses and regular Parent /Teacher Conferences to increase parent involvement and build staff and parent capacity to share information. The Parent/Teacher Conferences are held in September and February of the school year. The school will encourage parents by using: fundraisers, classroom speakers, tutors, book fair helpers, field trip volunteers, open houses, and other methods to help parents be involved with their students. DMS organizations such as STUCO, Band, Choir, etc. host daytime and evening events for families to attend. Pre-registration is held annually in the spring.

This is an opportunity for students and their families to ask questions and sign up for classes for the upcoming school year. Literacy nights are held annually, and there are Math and Science nights planned for this year.

3. We will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities by providing the state mandated training as well as linking the Department of Education website with all its resources to the school website to be accessible to parents. The district/school will provide a minimum of 2 hours of professional development designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement strategies. This year, our topic of choice is #strivefor5 campaign which encourages students to strive to miss no more than 5 days in a semester. We are working with staff, students, and parents as well as community members to reach out to all students, but particularly students who are at risk of being chronically absent. We will do several activities this year to promote students to come to school. Our campus as well as our district maintain websites and Facebook pages which update stakeholders on opportunities to volunteer.

4. School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact which will outline how all three share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement. The school will enable the formation of a Parent Teacher Association that will foster better parental/community involvement within the school. This compact will be reviewed annually and edited by a committee of stakeholders.

5. N/A due to the fact that DMS isn't Title I school nor a school improvement school. However, we work annually with a committee of parents, students, and staff to update our School Improvement Plans as well as our Parental Involvement Plans and Student Success Plans.

6. Resources for parents will be provided in a variety of ways. These shall include a handouts at open houses and Parent/ Teacher conferences, computer access to grades and teachers for communication purposes, and the school counselor. We also utilize a school Facebook account as well as maintain a school and district level website. Our district has library parent resources available for checkout as needed. Examples of resources available for checkout include: Chromebooks, iPads, and internet as needed.

7. The school/district will hold an annual meeting to evaluate the Title 1-Part A through an evaluation using the data from a needs assessment survey filled out by stakeholders such as teachers, parents, and staff. This survey will address topics such as needs of parents and students.

8. The results from the parent interest surveys will be used to make decisions about the effectiveness of school programs, professional development, planning parental involvement activities, and editing the ACSIP plan of the school.

9. N/A