Pleasant Lake Elementary
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Mr. Nyal Maktari, Principal

PARENT ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Moving Beyond Parent Involvement

To Parent Engagement
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INTRODUCTION

Decades of research have proven that when parents are involved in their children’s education, their success rates are greatly increased. Overall, these children will attain higher grades; they will do better on tests; they will be more motivated; they will have a greater level of self-esteem; and they will exhibit fewer instances of violent behavior.

Pleasant Lake Elementary staff understands the importance of having a productive, active, and positive relationship with our families and community with the goal of supporting student achievement. When parents are actively involved, the school also benefits. We understand that parental involvement also provides some reciprocal effects. We realize that the education of our students should have a strong connection between the home, school, and the community. This connection will assist us in reducing the barriers to student achievement.

It is the goal of Pleasant Lake Elementary to work towards providing a genuine parent and community partnership that is mutually beneficial to all stakeholders. Through this Engagement Plan, we intend to demonstrate how we plan to develop a collaborative and meaningful program that will contribute to improved schools and successful students.

It is our intention to engage families and community, provide outreach strategies, include home learning activities, utilize community resources, and tap the strengths of all stakeholders.
Pleasant Lake Elementary
4900 Halsted Road
West Bloomfield, Michigan 48323

Student/Home/School Compact

Pleasant Lake Elementary teachers, parents, and students participating in activities, programs, and services funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), agree that this compact outlines how the parties will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help students achieve the State’s high standards.

School Responsibilities

Pleasant Lake Elementary will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State’s student academic achievement standards.

   District wide, each elementary school follows the Everyday Math pacing guide and curriculum. The ELA curriculum includes The Writer’s Workshop based on Lucy Calkins Series. An inquiry based science approach that is aligned to the state standards. All curriculum is aligned with state standards.

2. Be proactive and provide parents with frequent reports on their children’s progress.

   Parents are contacted throughout our SIPP (RTI) process. It provides two-way communication between the teacher and parents allowing for ongoing discussion of the student’s progress and any needed conferences. Teachers utilize Skyward to provide parents with their child’s academic progress and missing assignments. Failure avoidance meetings are scheduled following the second card marking to collaboratively discuss a student’s academic progress.

3. Provide parents reasonable access to staff.

   Teachers are available for consultations with the parents before school, during their planning hour, or after school. Appointments can be made by either a phone call, email or written request. These meetings may be held in the individual classrooms or the principal’s office, with the principal present or any other necessary personnel.

4. Think win win and provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class and to observe classroom activities.

   Parents are encouraged to volunteer during the day assisting in classroom. Parents must follow district policy pertaining to parent volunteering which includes a criminal background check. All volunteers need to be approved by school administration. All volunteers sign in and out in the office for monitoring purposes.

   Parents are invited to join the individual classes for many academic and celebratory occasions that include but are not limited to the following:
Family Math Night,
Family Literacy Night
Community Guest Readers Day.
Scholastic Book Fair.
Field Trips
5th Grade Camp
5th Grade Musical
Volunteer Tea
School Fundraisers
School wide celebrations

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Be proactive and get your child to school on time.
- Monitor your child’s daily work, activities, and attendance.
- Attend parent/teacher conferences.
- Begin with the end in mind and create a positive homework environment.
- Synergize by participating in the decision making process of your child’s education.
- Stay informed about the school’s activities by reading all notices sent by the school or brought home by your child.
- Think win win and support the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will support our learning in the following ways:

- Be proactive by being on time for class every day, have the necessary materials, and be prepared to learn.
- Actively participate and complete all assignments, homework, and projects to the best of my ability.
- Begin with the end in mind and turn in all assignments on time.
- Seek help when needed.
- Think win win and follow the Student Code of Conduct.
- Be a leader at home and at school

Pleasant Lake Elementary will: Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school’s parental policies in an ongoing and organized way through the monthly PTA and Parent Action Team meetings.

STUDENT/HOME/SCHOOL COMPACT

Pleasant Lake Elementary advocates a strong connection between the student, home, and school as a way of closing the gap and reducing barriers. We understand the importance of involving all three stakeholders in the education of the children we serve. As a result we have developed the following Student/Home/School Compact that is mutually agreed upon by all parties. This Compact incorporates all of the components necessary to ensure students, parents, and the school share equally in the responsibilities of educating all of our students.
Pleasant Lake Elementary
Walled Lake Consolidated Schools
Teacher/Parent/Student Compact

Mission Statement: Together We Learn, Together We Lead

Teacher Responsibilities
The teacher and school will support our student’s learning in the following ways:

- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet our district’s student academic achievement standards.
- Be proactive and provide parents with frequent reports on their children’s progress.
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff.
- Think win win and provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class and to observe classroom activities.

Parent Responsibilities
We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Be proactive and get your child to school on time.
- Monitor your child’s daily work, activities, and attendance.
- Attend parent/teacher conferences.
- Begin with the end in mind and create a positive homework environment.
- Synergize by participating in the decision making process of your child’s education.
- Stay informed about the school’s activities by reading all notices sent by the school or brought home by your child.
- Think win win and support the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Responsibilities
We, as students, will support our learning in the following ways:

- Be proactive by being on time for class every day, have the necessary materials, and be prepared to learn.
- Actively participate and complete all assignments, homework, and projects to the best of my ability.
- Begin with the end in mind and turn in all assignments on time.
- Seek help when needed.
- Think win win and follow the Student Code of Conduct.
- Be a leader at home and at school

☐ Please check box if signed at Parent Teacher Conferences.

☐ Please check box if a translated copy was provided.

Student Signature ______________________________________ Date____________

Parent Signature ______________________________________ Date____________

Teacher Signature ______________________________________ Date____________
National Standards for Parent & Family Involvement Programs

The National PTA advocates the incorporation of the six (6) standards of Parental Involvement. Since each standard produces unique gains for students, contribute to effective programs, and fosters school success, Pleasant Lake Elementary will show how we are striving to implement programs that address each of the 6 Standards.

Pleasant Lake Elementary believes that students will achieve maximum gains when parents participate in activities associated with each of the six standard areas.

- **Standard I: Communication** – Communication between home and school is regular, two-way and meaningful.
- **Standard II: Parenting** – Parenting skills are promoted and supported.
- **Standard III: Student Learning** – Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.
- **Standard IV: Volunteering** – Parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought.
- **Standard V: School Decision Making and Advocacy** – Parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families.
- **Standard VI: Collaborating with Community** – Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning.

**Standard I - Communication**

Pleasant Lake Elementary understands that communication is the foundation of a solid partnership. “When parents and educators communicate effectively, positive relationships develop, problems are more easily solved, and students make greater progress.” Therefore, we support the area of Communication through the implementation of the following interactions:

- **Parent – Teacher Conferences**
  - November 12, 2015: 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
  - Provide language translators if needed
- **Individual consultation with parents for student academic progress as needed by appointment**
- **Flyers and weekly school newsletter provided to each parent updating them of scheduled calendar events**
- **Notes home to parents describing positive behavior and academic progress.**
- **School and District handbooks provided.**
- **Student Assessment results provided.**
- **Student Agendas requiring signatures from parents**

**Standard II – Parenting**

Pleasant Lake Elementary respects and affirms the importance that parents play in the education of their children. We support this nurturing role by providing parents with numerous opportunities to show the value of their input in the following ways:
• Creating opportunities for social interaction.
• Translators in predominate languages of Chaldean, Arabic, and Japanese are available.
• Parents are invited to participate in the school improvement process and invited to attend academic and celebratory events.
• Perception Survey collected from our parents.

**Standard III – Student Learning**
Pleasant Lake Elementary believes and supports the concept that student learning increases when parents are actively involved. We understand that teaming with parents will strengthen the student’s support system. We are working to assist parents in connecting with their child’s learning by enabling them to become involved in the following ways:

• The utilization of student planners that allows teachers and parents to communicate on a daily basis if needed.

**Standard IV – Volunteering**
Pleasant Lake Elementary realizes that, “When parents volunteer, both families and schools reap benefits . . .” We also understand that all parents should be given opportunities to support the work of educating all children. Therefore we have created the following opportunities for parents to become meaningfully involved in the educational process of their children:

• Participating in surveys.
• Opportunities to become involved in our PTA
• Parents are invited to chaperone field trips.
• Parents volunteer to work in our school.
• Parents support teachers in the classrooms as needed.
• Parents volunteer at our many after and during school events and activities.
• Translators available to assist parents.
• Many incentives for parents who volunteer and attend school functions/events.

**Standard V – School Decision – Making and Advocacy**
Pleasant Lake Elementary staff concurs with the result of studies that show when parents are involved in decision-making and advocacy; student achievement rises to a higher level. Since parents are valued stakeholders, we value their input and involvement in all decisions involving their children. We have extended chances for parents to become actively involved in decision-making and advocacy by providing the following opportunities:

• Through our PTA Meetings.
• Inviting parents to participate in the school improvement process; this process involves setting school-wide goals based on building and state assessment data results.
• Providing parents and community with our School Improvement Plan. A School Improvement Plan Pamphlet is provided and posted on our school website.
• Maintaining an “Open Door Policy” encouraging parents to feel welcome to come into the school to discuss any concerns or challenges that they might have.
• Provide Parent Surveys

**Standard VI – Collaborating with Community**
Since our community is so diverse, we strive to draw from the total community by taking advantage of the wide array of valuable resources in the following ways:

• We provide an English Language Learner support for all of our students requiring this service.
• When communicating with the community, we translate important letters and flyers into several languages to accommodate the community.
• We utilize the resources and businesses in the community whenever possible.
• We provide the services of a Social Worker to address concerns of parents and students in the community.
• Document parent and community collaborative efforts.
• Relationship with local newspapers.
• Diversity Week is a time that celebrates the diversity of our community.
• Community Guest Reader Day.