

# Veterans Park Elementary School PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

## **I. DEFINITION OF PARENT**

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The legal definition of a “parent” is a parent, step-parent, or foster parent of a student or a person who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order and with whom the student resides.

For the purposes of this policy we will use the term “parent” to encompass all diverse family situations.

## **II. COMMITMENTS**

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We commit to:

1. Sharing clear information about each student’s progress with parents.
2. Offering practical suggestions to parents on how they can support student learning at home.
3. Making representative parents and community members full partners in our decision-making.
4. Facilitating the involvement of our parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of migratory children, and military families.
5. Seeking and supporting adult volunteers to work with and inspire our students, as well as making every effort when legally appropriate to accommodate the involvement of adults other than parents who are already involved in a student’s life.

We will honor these commitments through a school-parent compact. During an annual meeting with parents, we will review the compact with parents, ask for input and then revise, if necessary, the compact.

## **III. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

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Our students’ parents, families, extended families, students themselves, as well as our local community are all considered partners who share responsibilities for high student academic achievement. Following are the responsibilities for the school, the parents, and the students:

### **A. SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Veterans Park Elementary will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in an effective, supportive, and safe learning environment that enables the students to meet Kentucky’s academic standards.

2. Provide information on the content students will learn each year through the methods listed in our Curriculum Policy.
3. Assign homework in accordance with our Homework Policy.
4. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress. Specifically we will provide formal reports every 9 weeks.
5. Hold parent-teacher conferences at least 2 per year. Opportunities (where appropriate) will be provided for the student to participate actively in sharing information on his or her progress with his or her parents during these conferences.
6. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. The email addresses and telephone extensions of their child's teachers will be provided to parents to promote communication. Staff will always be available to parents by appointment for face-to-face conferences.
7. Support an active Parent Teacher Association or Organization.
8. Provide parents opportunities including but not limited to:
  - a. Observing their child's classroom activities on a mutually agreed upon schedule.
  - b. Volunteering in the classrooms with but not limited to the following activities:
    - i. Assisting with classroom activities that require more than one adult.
    - ii. Preparing materials, mailings, refreshments, and other items needed for family and community involvement.
    - iii. Serving on one of our decision-making committees.
    - iv. Joining our parent teacher organization and participating in its efforts to strengthen our school.
    - v. Volunteering along with other members of our community in other areas as needed.
  - c. Ensure that all adult volunteers working in our school and with our students are subject to board policy and state law regarding criminal record checks, as applicable.

## **B. PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Parents are asked to:

1. Monitor attendance.
2. Become familiar with and support the school and individual classrooms' homework policies and show interest with questions about and comments on the schoolwork their children bring home.
3. Make sure homework is completed.
4. Assist their child with time management.
5. Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to their child's education.
6. Stay in close communication with teachers and the school about their child's education by promptly reading all notices and surveys from the school or the school district and responding if necessary.
7. To the extent possible, volunteer, serve on the school Council or a committee, attend School-Based Decision Making Council meetings, and comment on draft policies and plans as they are made available.

### **C. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

With support from parents, students are asked to:

#### **1. PRIMARY**

- a. Attend school as regularly as possible.
- b. Follow the school and classroom behavior standards.
- c. Complete and turn in all assigned homework.
- d. Give parents or the adult who is responsible for them, all notices and information received from the school.

#### **2. INTERMEDIATE**

- a. Attend school as regularly as possible.
- b. Follow the school and classroom behavior standards.
- c. Bring necessary learning materials to school and to class.
- d. Complete and turn in all assigned homework.
- e. Give parents or the adult who is responsible for them, all notices and information received from the school.

**NOTE: To ensure the safety of our students, all visitors, volunteers, and parents must sign in at the office before going to any class during the instructional day.**