

Meade School District 46-1
“To Build Knowledge and Skills for Success Today and Tomorrow”

Whitewood Elementary
Title I Policy on Parent Involvement
2023-2024

Whitewood Elementary’s School Wide Title I program encourages family involvement, which is a vital and integral part of the success of every student in the program. The school will take the following steps to encourage family involvement:

IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Whitewood Elementary School Wide Title I program will annually invite and encourage all families of children that attend our school to at least one meeting per year to share goals, program focus, and activities provided to the students. The findings from this meeting will be used to design strategies for more effective family involvement, and to revise, if necessary its parent involvement School Wide Title I policies by:
 - Educating families on their rights and privileges to participate in coordinating the School Wide Title I program.
 - Educate families on school’s curriculum for reading and mathematics (*enVisions* and *Wonders*).
 - Educate families on the updates to the school’s library.
 - Educate families on Whitewood Elementary’s PreK classroom.
 - Educate families on updates to the school’s STEM program.
 - Providing on-going personal communication (personal contact, phone calls, e-mails, letters, and notes) between home and school, using a common communication application.
 - Arranging school meetings at a variety of times and/or locations to accommodate family needs
 - Policy reviews
 - Annual family surveys
 - Hosting the Family Involvement Committee meeting
 - Dissemination of information throughout the school year
 - Family engagement activities

2. The Whitewood Elementary School Wide Title I program will annually provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance through:
 - Policy reviews
 - Family surveys
 - Invitation to the Federal Programs Advisory Committee
 - Family Involvement Committee held at Whitewood Elementary
 - Paying reasonable and necessary expenses for family attendance at nationally or locally sponsored conferences or workshops
 - Meade School District 46-1 website

- Newsletter (sent to email addresses of families of students enrolled in Meade School District 46-1 and posted on the district website)
 - Articles in the local newspapers, radio and television stations
3. Whitewood Elementary shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, annually coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, public preschools, and other community programs. Whitewood Elementary will sustain activities listed below that encourage and support parents to participate in the education of their children.
- Provide literacy and math materials
 - Preschool Transition Team planning
 - Encourage family volunteering at Whitewood Elementary
 - Transition planning
 - School tours
 - Kindergarten/Preschool screening
 - Coordination of confidential records
 - Inform families of the purpose and existence of the SD Parent Resource Network website
 - Invite Head Start and Parents as Teachers to School-Wide Title I Family Engagement activities
 - Develop and maintain community relationships to enhance family involvement
4. Whitewood Elementary shall provide assistance to the families of children served in the School wide Title I program, an understanding of such topics as the state's academic content standards, local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress. Whitewood Elementary will work with families to improve the achievement of their children through the following:
- Availability of Intervention Teachers
 - Various workshops/classes/conferences
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences in fall and spring
 - Standard Based report cards
 - Provide information on SD Content Standards
 - Explanation of state and local assessments
 - Articles regarding educational highlights and resources in school newsletters
 - SD Parent Resource Network website
 - Sdsfec.org
 - Meade School District 46-1 website (www.meade.k12.sd.us)
 - Family Engagement activities concentrating on literacy and math
 - Encouragement of family volunteering at Whitewood Elementary
 - Support Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)

5. Whitewood Elementary shall educate its teachers, administrators, and other staff how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, in the value of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by:
 - Professional development in how to read and interpret the NWEA reports given to parents at parent/teacher conferences.
 - Input provided to teachers on good techniques to create a positive relationship with parents through their communication.
 - Promote specific individual progress to be noted in individual student reports, phone calls, parent meetings, and in the comment sections of the standard-based report card,
 - Urge all teachers to attend family engagement activities at the building level and make connections with families.
 - Infinite Campus
 - Various workshops/classes/conferences
 - Progress Reports
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences in October and February
 - Meade School District 46-1 website
 - Literacy and math materials for home
 - Parent resources are shared from sdsfec.org
 - Annual invitation to parents to participate in the Title I Family Involvement Committee
 - Parent/Teacher Organization Meetings (PTO)

6. Whitewood Elementary will take the following actions to ensure that information relating to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities are available, including alternate formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
 - All communication to families, including school and district newsletters
 - Infinite Campus
 - School Messenger

ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the family involvement requirements, Whitewood Elementary shall, to the extent practical, provide full opportunities for the participation of families of children with limited English proficiency, families of children with disabilities, and parents/guardians of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format to the extent practical, in a language such families can understand. For more information or assistance, call: Whitewood Elementary at 605-269-2264 or Special Services Office at 605-347-4770.

ADDITIONAL FAMILY INVOLVEMENT COMPONENTS FOR THE WHITEWOOD ELEMENTARY TITLE I PROGRAM

At Open House festivities at the beginning of the year, all parents receive access to the Title I School Wide and District Wide Parent Involvement Policies as well as the compact between educators, parents, and students. Information on these policies is also found in the student handbook and school website. In addition, parents receive information about the School Wide Title I program through the monthly newsletter. The newsletter shares information on how any or all students can be supported through the School Wide Title I program. A compact is given to all students and parents at the Open House.

Parents/guardians are informed of their child's progress, placement, proficiency level, and methods they can use to complement their child's instruction at least on a trimester basis, including parent-teacher conferences.

The District Wide Parent Advisory Council continues to provide advice and guidance on family engagement activities and issues.

Overall, Whitewood Elementary and the Meade School District 46-1 will work to promote a positive partnership between the parents and the School Wide Title I program.