

# Parent and Family Engagement Policy

## Mt Sterling Elementary

### **DEFINITION OF PARENT**

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The legal definition of a "parent" is a parent, grandparent, stepparent, 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.

### **COMMITMENTS**

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We commit to:

1. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress. Specifically we will provide formal reports every nine weeks.
2. Offering practical suggestions to parents on how they can support students 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, and parents of migratory children. In addition, communication with non-English speaking families will be sent home in the native language.
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.
6. Providing high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that will enable students to meet the state's academic expectations.
7. Send home newsletters that include information on ways families can help students learn. Utilize other forms of communication.
8. Support an active Parent Teacher Association or Organization.
9. Provide parents opportunities including but not limited to observing their child's classroom activities, tutoring, preparing materials, mailings, refreshments, and other items needed for family and community involvement, serving on one of our school committees.
10. 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.

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.