



## **Forest Heights Elementary School**

### **Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2019-2020**

Forest Heights Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, agreed upon with, and distributed to, parents of participating children. Richland One has high regard and much respect for the parents of its students and therefore:

#### **I. Policy Engagement:**

Forest Heights Elementary School shall involve parents by inviting identify/select parents to attend Parent Advisory Council meetings where they will serve on committees to assist in developing and reviewing the school-wide plans, School Improvement Plans, as well as the district plan. Parents will also complete an annual survey, which will provide program format, preferred service delivery techniques, methods of communication with parents, suggested workshops and seminars needed by parents to support their efforts in educating their children. Particular attention will be paid to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, and families of migratory and homeless children that attend Forest Heights Elementary School. Also, efforts will be made to determine why parents do not participate including barriers to greater participation such as lack of transportation, absence of child care, work schedules, unsuitable meeting times or locations, or lack of interest. The findings of the annual parental engagement evaluation surveys will be used to dictate what changes should be made and by whom to make the parental engagement programs more effective and if needed, to revise the parental engagement policies.

The Forest Heights Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be presented during the annual Title I meeting for each year. The policy will be updated as needed and reviewed annually by an appropriate panel of parents and sent out to all parents.

#### **II. School-Parent Compact:**

Forest Heights Elementary School will develop a compact that will be used to build strong and meaningful parental and student relationships. The agreement will establish how all will share the responsibility for each student's achievement. After reading the compact, parents/guardians, students and teachers will be asked to sign and return it to the school where it will be kept. Parent surveys will be sent to all Parent Advisory Council members for input on programs, training, materials and functions. Parent surveys will be conducted, questionnaires distributed and phone calls made to gather information.

### III. Family Engagement Opportunities:

To ensure effective engagement of parents /guardians, and to support partnership among the families, community and school to improve student achievement, Forest Heights Elementary School will:

- a. Encourage parents to be involved in the development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy by serving on planning committees, completing written surveys, and conducting phone surveys. The policy will be disseminated to parents through bulk mailings PTO, PAC, SIC meetings, Title I parent meetings, and will be available at the school and on the school's website.
- b. Encourage all parents to be involved in all the activities of the school including parent trainings, meetings, activities, workshops and conferences.
- c. Assist families in understanding South Carolina's academic and achievement standards, the district curriculum, and school expectations by distributing written information, providing information at the school and on the website, and conducting parent-teacher conferences.
- d. Provide formal and informal opportunities for families to communicate with the school and provide input for the school and the school improvement process. The School Improvement Council and Title One Planning Team will meet on a regular basis. Parent, staff and community representatives will be elected to the SIC. This group will work to develop the School Renewal Plan, the Title One school-wide plan and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Report.
- e. Provide other opportunities for Parent and Family Engagement through such activities as, but not limited to PTO night, Back-to-School Bash, Career Day, volunteer opportunities in the classroom, and other various activities.

I have had an opportunity to review and provide input on the 2019-2020 Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_