

S.S. Palmer Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy

*This parent and family engagement policy is in effect during the school year 2020-2021.
The parent pertains to parents/guardians of S. S. Palmer Elementary School students.
S.S. Palmer Elementary consists of students grades 2nd through 6th.*

Purpose: The S. S. Palmer Elementary School recognizes the primary role parents and family play in the education, welfare, and values of their children. The school is committed to the belief that all students can learn and acknowledges that schools and families share a commitment to the educational success of students.

Definition: Parent and family engagement shall be defined as an ongoing process that assists parents and families to meet their basic obligation as a child's first educator, promotes clear two-way dialogue between home and school, and supports parents as participants in the education of their children in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade.

Authority: The school recognizes that the responsibility for each student's education is shared by the school and the family and acknowledges that schools and families must work as knowledgeable, cooperative partners to effectively educate all students. The school shall support the development, implementation and continued evaluation of a parental and family involvement program that will involve parents of 2nd through 6th grade students in a variety of roles.

Guidelines:

The S.S. Palmer Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

1. S.S. Palmer Elementary School will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents with children in the Title I Reading Program.
 - Parents and families will be issued an invitation to attend meetings to write, review, and revise the parent and family engagement policy.
 - Parents and families will participate in the writing, reviewing, and revising of the policy.
 - While developing and revising the policy, parents and families will have the opportunity to read, review, and/or make any comments or suggestions for change.
2. An annual meeting will be held to inform parents and families of the school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved. This meeting will be held at Meet the Teacher Night.
3. Parent meetings including parent conferences will be held at different times of the day throughout the year.
4. Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family involvement activities.

5. Parents and families will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program.
 - At the annual meeting, Title I improvement will be discussed.
 - Parents will be given surveys to complete and provide input at the end of each school year.
6. Parents will receive information about the Title I program through Meet the Teacher Night and district website (www.palmerton.org).
7. The school will provide parents with the following:
 - explanation of curriculum at annual meeting;
 - opportunity to review curriculum at the curriculum office, S.S. Palmer Elementary, and on the district website (www.palmerton.org);
 - explanation of academic assessments at meetings and conferences;
 - written reports sent home three times a year at the completion of benchmark assessments;
 - explanation of proficiency levels students are expected to meet at annual meetings, conferences, and through reports;
 - explanation of Pennsylvania Core Standards and student achievement standards;
 - explanation of local academic assessments and how to monitor student progress;
 - explanation of state-wide PSSA test-taking strategies;
 - PSSA score reports will be sent home annually.
8. In addition to parent/teacher meetings held annually, the school will hold additional parent teacher meetings, if requested, regarding decisions relating to the education of their children.
9. The school will jointly develop with parents a partnership/compact outlining how parents, entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.
10. The school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement. A parent resource center is located on the door next to the main office. Materials will also be posted on the Palmerton website.

In the event of school closures, the Title I team will make a good faith effort to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in this document through distance learning, as outlined in the Palmerton Area School District's Continuity of Education Plan.