

## **Parent Involvement Plan**

### **Goal 1: Tennessee Ridge Elementary School will be committed to involving parents and community in development of a Family/Community Engagement Plan.**

- Parents regularly volunteer to work extra-curricular activities in our school to provide support to visitors and families.
- The building is easy for visitors to navigate with signs clearly directing visitors to important places within the building.
- An outside marquee keeps the community informed of upcoming events at the school.
- A formal volunteer program is in place for parents to be trained to assist in individual classrooms and school events.
- The school works with parents and the community to gain their insights on how to make the school more respectful and supportive through PTO meetings, conferences, and parent involvement meetings.

### **Goal 2: Tennessee Ridge Elementary School will provide technical assistance and support for effective family/community engagement.**

- Family and student activities as well as extra school materials are free to students who are unable to pay through PTO funds and local churches.
- The school and PTO provide families with tools to support student learning at home through workshops, standard nights, and math/reading night present strategies and ideas parents can use at home to enhance academic success.

### **Goal 3: Families and school staff collaborate to support students' learning and development, both at home and school, the school staff also informs the community about the school's progress.**

- The school staff develops connections with families through personal phone calls, email, notes, and school newsletters.
- A parent survey is completed with results shared through PTO meetings, newsletters, conferences, and by phone.
- The principal is accessible for scheduled meetings with parents at different times of the day and is present at PTO meetings to address parent concerns if needed.
- All school families are kept informed of school issues by newsletters, phone calls, emails, and letters sent home.
- The PTO and school will jointly develop a Back to School program where parents can connect with each other. A calendar with school events as well as a school-wide directory with staff listings can be found within the Parent Handbook.

### **Goal 4: Tennessee Ridge Elementary School will ensure parents are aware of school system and school operations regarding programs, policies, and activities.**

- Teachers regularly contact parents with positive news through newsletters, phone calls, and classroom notes. Parents are encouraged to schedule meetings with teachers, respond through planners, and phone calls when needs arise.
- Teachers explain to parents throughout the year what students are learning and the academic standards for each grade level.

- Families have the opportunity to learn how to interpret testing data and how the school uses the results to improve student achievement through a parent meeting held at the beginning of the school year.
- Parent meetings for each grade level are held to present the academic goals for the year.
- Teachers encourage families to collaborate on classroom learning by presenting information in the classroom as guest speakers on special interest topics. Teachers frequently work with parents to provide resources for upcoming units of study.
- The school informs parents of after-school opportunities in the school and community through fliers and newsletters. The PTO invites families to learn more about the value of after-school activities by offering a meeting with event opportunities in our community.
- The School Staff hosts a Back to School Bash where families can learn about programs for academic/social growth, tour the school, and meet the faculty.

**Goal 5: Tennessee Ridge Elementary School will incorporate family and community involvement in decision making and governance.**

- The school offers information regarding resources/programs available in the school.
- The school distributes written materials about parent involvement mandates.
- The school will provide information to all parents on how to resolve problems at the school in an effective manner. Clear written procedures are available to all parents.
- The school newsletter provides quarterly tips on how to be an advocate for student success.
- Career Day is held with local employers in order to give students the opportunities to explore careers. Necessary skills for these careers are identified so students can better plan for the future.
- School staff reaches out to families before the school year begins with a Back to School Bash. This allows students and parents to tour the school, meet the faculty, and meet other students and parents resulting in a smoother transition for the coming school year.

**Goal 6: Tennessee Ridge Elementary School will be committed to professional development and collaborating with the community while building the capacity for family/community engagement.**

- The PTO and school host dialogues with families and school personnel about issues to gain ideas and insights at our annual Back to School Open House.
- The Title 1 Parent Involvement committee and Family Resource Center identify barriers to working with the school. Ideas on eliminating these barriers are addressed in an effort to increase parent involvement.
- Families are surveyed to find out their interests and skills. The Title 1 Committee will follow up with opportunities where parents might be able to help in the classroom regarding these special interests and skills.
- A Career Day is held with local employers, school board members, local police, and local government officials so parents/students can learn about resources in the community.
- All parents interested in leadership roles in the school are invited to participate in training offered by school administration.
- School staff, PTO group, and Family Resource Center collect information for families about community resources. This information is posted on the school bulletin board and is distributed in a school newsletter and Parent Handbook.
- The school staff reaches out to local businesses and organizations in assisting with programs such as the Harvest Festival and Read to Me Day.
- Houston County Youth Leadership Council provides Junior Achievement sessions with students regarding skills needed to be successful in the business community.

- Scout groups, basketball leagues, and 4-H Clubs are held in the school facility throughout the year.
- Lion's Club offers yearly eye screenings for students. Lion's members provide free transportation/services for students needing eye examinations outside of the school building.