

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL **Howard** **Family and Community Involvement** **Strategies – Fall, 2018**

Schoolwide Plans must contain strategies to involve parents in helping their children succeed in school.

1. *Describe the key strategies planned to increase meaningful family involvement that is designed to enhance home-school partnerships and improve student learning. Include these strategies in the Action Plans.*

We offer an annual Open House in the fall, where teachers explain classroom procedures, expectations, and curriculum to parents. This builds relationships between teachers and parents and strengthens their collaboration. Our annual Title 1 parent meeting is held during Open House, and is advertised to parents in the Open House flyer and in the September and October school newsletters.

We hold conferences in the Fall, which provide an opportunity for teachers and parents to touch base, set goals, and evaluate student progress towards grade level goals. It is also a time for the teacher to share strategies and ideas with parents who may be struggling to support their children in school. The Title I Coordinator participates in conferences when requested for students receiving Tier 3 interventions.

We will continue to offer a Family Literacy Night in the Winter. This event provides the school community with an opportunity to celebrate literacy. The event is coordinated with our annual Book Fair to support our Library book collection. The PTO has also provided books for kids receiving Title services through Book Fair funds when funds are available.

We will have our Third annual Family Engineering Night in the Spring. This event will provide an opportunity to inform and excite our school community about the Science and Engineering field.

We also have some less formal evening events, including movie nights and other family nights through the work of the school district Family Resource Coordinator and our PTO.

2. *Describe the strategies or process used to include parents in decision making and evaluation of the Schoolwide Plan and/or other school related programs.*

We include parents in our Site Council, which plays a pivotal role in the development of the Comprehensive Achievement Plan. The administrator will attend PTO meetings and share out the work of Site Council with parents to get feedback and ideas.

3. *Describe the process used to meet with parents of students who have not met academic standards.*

The initial point of contact is before conferences in the fall. Parents are notified via letter when a student initially enters progress monitoring or intervention status. Additionally, parents are notified if their student's intervention status changes. Parent/Teacher Conferences occur during the week of Thanksgiving. The Title Coordinator attends if there is a request to do so. The Title Coordinator is on campus during the conferences, so parents can stop in to conference if they so choose.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL **Howard** **Family and Community Involvement** **Strategies – Fall, 2018**

4. Identify the date and the agenda for the annual Title I-A meeting.

Each year the annual Title 1-A meeting is held as part of Howard's Open House in the fall. This year's Open House is on Wednesday, October 11th. Parents are invited to come and hear about procedures and expectations in each classroom, as well as visit specialist classrooms like Title 1, Special Education, etc. This is advertised as Title's annual meeting in the Open House flyer. Each classroom has a sign in sheet to determine the parents' attendance at this night event (copies of sign in sheets are uploaded to the Title 1 Coordinator's binder in Google docs). A meal is offered in the cafeteria using Title funds. This allows parents to attend have a meal after meeting with their child's teacher. We also use Title parent involvement funds to provide a free book to every student that attends Open House to encourage parents to read at home with their children.

5. Describe community collaboration and partnerships that enhance student achievement.

Howard fosters numerous collaborative partnerships with community members, including the following examples:

- Trinity Lutheran Church has "adopted" Howard Elementary and has donated clothing, supplies, field trip scholarships, and food baskets for the holidays. They also conducted a spring cleanup to spruce up our landscape beds.
- Oregon Community Foundation provides financial support for our Strings program.
- YMCA provides enrichment activities during our after school BEST program.
- ODE has put out grant funding opportunities to bring more STEM into afterschool programs, such as BEST. ODE is also providing the Science Action Plan/Committee to reach out to schools.
- Arts Umbrella provides Strings lessons to students during our after school BEST program.
- Oregon State University provides enrichment nutrition and cooking activities during our after school BEST program.
- Operation School Bell, through Assistance League, provides school clothes.
- Community Center of Lane County provides fluoride varnish to our students.
- Our evening events (Curriculum Night, Literacy Night, and movie nights) are supported by Title I, the Family Resource Coordinator, school staff, and PTO.
- University of Oregon work study students provide support during our after school BEST program.
- A garden grant supports the school garden during the school day and in the after school BEST program.
- The School Garden Project of Lane County are working with BEST to teach gardening and sustainability.
- Partnership with DHS, Catholic Community Services, and Child Welfare for Student Care Team.
- Young Rembrandts after school art program
- Bricks 4 Kidz (Lego Robotics) after school program
- Albertson's sponsors Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday meal boxes for families.
- Khol's sends employees to volunteer at various school events.
- Walmart annually donates many school supplies.
- Church of God (Seventh Day) has assisted with projects and donated school supplies

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Howard **Family and Community Involvement**
Strategies – Fall, 2018

6. *Briefly describe the process used to develop and implement the school/parent compact.*

The school/parent compact is reviewed and developed by Site Council. Its wording and content was reviewed in spring of 2016. School/parent compacts are sent home by classroom teachers in September, or at conferences and are returned signed by parents. The compacts are signed by the teacher and principal, and a copy is given to the Title 1 Coordinator to keep on file.

7. *Attach a copy of the school/parent compact in relevant languages.*

8. *Attach a copy of the School Title IA Family Involvement Policy.*