

2024-25

Family Engagement Policy

DOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

STEWARTCOUNTYSCHOOLS.ORG

What is a school family engagement policy/plan?

Dover Elementary is identified as a schoolwide Title 1 school, as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The goal of Title I is to support state and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop this policy with parents and family members.

How is this policy revised?

Dover Elementary invites all families to attend our annual Title I/ Family Engagement meeting each fall to review and revise the Family Engagement Policy, discuss the school's goals, and ways to improve. Additionally, family input is welcome throughout the year in meetings, conferences, and district surveys. Families can also provide the school with feedback during scheduled meetings and school activities during the school year.

Where is the plan available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook and given to all students. The plan is also available on the school's website.

Importance of Family Engagement

Families play an important role in the education of their children. Dover Elementary values the contributions and involvement of families to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes how Dover Elementary will provide opportunities to support and promote student learning at school and at home.



Dover Elementary School believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving students' academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

1. Welcoming ALL Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with the Community

2024-25 District Instructional Goals

- By Spring 2025, we will increase the percent of all students who met or exceeded expectations and TVAAS Growth on the TN state ELA assessments.
- By Spring 2025, we will improve mathematics achievement in all grades and subgroups.
- By Spring 2025, we will increase the percent of students considered College and Career Ready.

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Dover Elementary will take the following measures to empower and support parents and family members as an important foundation of our school in order to strengthen our goals. We will:

- ☐ Ensure that all information related to school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is posted on the school website/social media page and included in the monthly school newsletter for all families.
- ☐ Provide monthly training for staff during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with families and ideas to increase family engagement in reading and math for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share promising practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ☐ Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, family resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ☐ Share information on the school website and in the school newsletter for families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways families can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ☐ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through School Reach phone messages, our website, social media, school newsletters, and flyers.
- ☐ Work to develop relevant training and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support students' learning.

- ☐ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child’s achievement.
- ☐ Use our Parent Teacher Community Organization (PTCO) to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ☐ Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events and accept suggestions on the school website/social media in order to respond to parents’ requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

Important Events

Dover Elementary School will host the following events and activities to build the capacity for strong family engagement and support a partnership among the school, families, and community to improve academic achievement. Look for social media posts and flyers from students to see updated dates and times for activities.

Orientation - Grades 1-5 July 29 and Pre-K/K July 30, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Annual Title I and Family Engagement Meeting - September 5, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Parent Teacher Conferences - October 3, 2024 and March 13, 2025

Parent Teacher Community Organization Meetings - First week of each month

Parent Advisory Council - February 20, 2025

School Improvement Meeting - March 27, 2025

Join the DES PTCO!

The Dover Elementary School PTCO (Parent Teacher Community Organization) consists of all stakeholders wishing to collaborate with the school to support our students. This organization is very active and meets at least once a month. The PTCO appreciates your support both monetarily and through volunteer work at various events. Please consider becoming a member!

- Yes, I am interested in joining the PTCO.
- Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the PTCO.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings.

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Child’s Name and Grade: _____

Phone Number: _____

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you and welcome your feedback. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students’ and the schools’ goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave/send this form to the DES office. Thank you!

Name (Optional): _____ Phone Number (Optional) _____

Comments:

***Stewart County Schools* Title I Program COMPACT**

Dover Elementary School

Date: August 2024

Parent Pledge

I want my child to have a successful year. Therefore, I will:

- see that my child attends school every day
- read together with my child
- limit screen time
- talk with my child and offer praise and encouragement
- schedule daily homework/study times
- monitor out-of-school activities and peer communications/chats
- check access to social media/apps
- check *Take-Home* folders and backpacks regularly
- attend conferences and contact the school with concerns.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Student Pledge

It is important to do my BEST in school. Therefore, I will:

- attend school regularly
- come to school with the necessary tools for learning
- complete and return homework
- read at home
- work hard to do my best
- be responsible for my own actions
- respect other students and adults
- share graded assignments and other communication from the teacher with my parents.

Signature of Student _____

Our Dover Elementary School Administration and Staff Pledge

It is important for students to be successful in school. Therefore, we will:

- provide high quality instruction
- report students' progress toward learning goals
- use special activities to make learning enjoyable.
- show that we care about all students
- provide a safe place for learning
- respect students and their families

communicate and work with families to support students' learning.