

Harmony Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan for Shared Student Success 2015-2016 School Year



Harmony Elementary School
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What is Title I

Harmony Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards in order to reinforce and enhance efforts 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 parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement plan.

School Parent Involvement Plan for Shared Student Achievement

What is it? This is a plan that describes how Harmony Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Harmony Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement and of creating opportunities for parents to participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed/revised? Harmony Elementary School welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding this plan, as well as the Title I Schoolwide Plan. Parent input forms will be available to all parents of students enrolled in Harmony Elementary to involve parents in the development of this plan, the district plan, the Schoolwide Plan, and the use of parent involvement funds. All parent feedback will be considered in the revision of all plans. The plans will go home with all students at the beginning of the school year. This Parent Involvement Plan (PIP) is posted on our school website for parents to view and send feedback throughout the year. We also distribute an annual survey asking parents for their review of our Title I Program, as well as all plans. This survey helps to guide how our parent involvement funds are spent. Parents can also give feedback during our annual Pickens County Parent Action Committee meetings.

Who is it for? All students participating in the Title I, Part A Program and their families are both encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this PIP. Harmony Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English skills, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? At the beginning of the year, the PIP will be sent home with students in their Title I packets, posted on the school website, available at all schools, available at Title I Meetings, annual Title I events, and at the Pickens County Parent Action Committee meetings.



2015-2016 District Goals

The Board of Education sets goals for the entire district. The district goal for 2015-2016 is to raise student achievement as reflected in a 3% increase in CCRPI scores.

2015-2016 HES Goals

Harmony Elementary School's Improvement Team, teachers, and administrators have analyzed data to decide the most important areas of improvement for our school.

Math – To increase math proficiency by 5% over three years, HES will concentrate on number sense in grades K-5.

Reading – To increase reading proficiency by 5% over three years, HES will concentrate on phonics and vocabulary development in grades K-5.



Let's Get Together

Harmony Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Notices and invitations will be sent home with students, published in the Pickens County Progress, posted on Facebook, and transmitted via an all-call phone notice to inform families of these parent engagement opportunities.

Open House: Parents and students are able to meet their teacher and briefly learn about grade-level expectations.

Annual Title I Meeting: Parents learn about and have the opportunity to provide input on our Title I Program including our School Parent Involvement Plan, District Parent Involvement Plan, Parent/School/Student Compact, the Title I School-wide Plan, how parent involvement funds are spent, and other Title I requirements.

STEM Night: Parents and students enjoy activities that incorporate science, technology, engineering, and math. Parents and students experience firsthand the fun and excitement of math and science enabling families to continue the learning at home.

Curriculum Night: Parents are provided information on grade-level expectations and assessments that students will be given throughout the year.

Book Fair: Parents and students enjoy shopping together to pick out a book that they can enjoy reading.

Read Across America: Parents are invited to come and read to their child's class.

Author's Night: Allows students to share with parents their best writing sample from the year.

School Advisory Council: This committee of parents and teachers meets quarterly to review the school improvement plan and student achievement data.

PTO: Parents and teachers work together to plan fun activities and fundraisers to supplement a variety of items for students to use in the classroom.

Parent Involvement at Harmony Elementary School

Harmony Elementary School believes parent involvement means the participation of parents in meaningful, two-way communication to support student academic achievement both in school and at home, as well as other school activities, including ensuring -

- Parents play an integral role in their child's learning.
- Parents are active participants in their child's education at school and at home.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making opportunities and as participants on advisory committees.
- Parents are involved in other activities as described in this plan.

Harmony Elementary is committed to helping parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email if you need childcare or other assistance in order to participate in our programs.

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Harmony Elementary School is Reaching Out

Harmony Elementary School will take the following measures to promote and support parents as important partners in strengthening and reaching school goals.

We will:

- Ensure information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in English and other languages as needed, posted on the school website and included in grade level newsletters.
- Educate staff members on strategic communication skills that will foster positive relationships with parents.
- Partner with Head Start and Prevent Child Abuse Pickens (Pickens Family Partners) to share information about school activities and newsletters, to prepare parents and their children for kindergarten, and to facilitate school transition.
- Share information via the school website and newsletters to help parents understand the school's academic standards/assessments, to assist parents in monitoring their child's progress, and to work with educators ensuring students' academic success.
- Communicate regularly regarding school-wide events and activities through phone messages, social media, school website, and/or flyers.
- Provide materials, as appropriate, to assist parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement.
- Work with parents to inform staff members of the importance of effective communication and parental involvement via newsletters and staff meetings.
- Collaborate with community leaders, business groups, and local residents to increase participation and awareness of school-parent involvement practices and activities.
- Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support with parent involvement activities.



Our Commitment to Parent Involvement

Harmony Elementary is committed to parent involvement and will do the following to help ensure the academic achievement of our students:

1. Welcome all families
2. Communicate effectively
3. Support students' success
4. Advocate for each child
5. Partner with parents
6. Collaborate with our community

Pickens County Parent Action Committee

The Pickens County School System, along with Harmony Elementary, invites all parents to join the Pickens County Parent Action Committee. We invite you to share ideas and ways to involve other parents in building partnerships between school, family, and the community. The committee will meet twice yearly, but parents may submit their ideas and suggestions during activities and meetings as well through parent surveys and email. If you would like to learn more about PCPAC, please contact Amberle Godfrey @ 706-253-1700 or amberlegodfrey@pickenscountyschools.org

School-Parent-Student Compact

As part of this plan, Harmony Elementary and our parents will develop a school/parent/student compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop collaboratively. The compact explains how parents and teachers will work together to help all students in achieving



grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers using letters sent home, meetings, and the school website. School/parent/student compacts are kept with each child's teacher if parents need a copy.

Please use this space to submit comments or suggestions.

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