

H.O. Whitehurst Elementary

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Statement of Purpose

H.O. Whitehurst Elementary (H.O.W.) is committed to the goal of providing a quality education for every child. In order to accomplish this goal, partnerships must be established with parents and the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement for our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. The District recognizes and encourages parents in the four key roles that they play in their children's learning as:

- Teacher – helping their child at home,
- Supporter – contributing their skills to the school,
- Advocate – helping their child receive fair treatment, and
- Decision Maker – participating in joint problem-solving with the school at every level.

Parent Involvement in Developing the Policy

Our campus has a Campus Improvement Team (CIT) composed of parents, community leaders, business representatives, and district personnel. The CIT has direct input in the development and revision of the parent and family engagement policy on an annual basis. Parent comments from parent/teacher conferences, parent surveys, and other meetings to solicit parent input are used in the development and revision of this policy.

H.O. Whitehurst Elementary School-Parent Compact

In order for parents, students and schools to share responsibility for high student achievement, the H.O. Whitehurst Elementary School-Parent Compact is reviewed each year by the respective Campus Improvement Team. The campus compact is distributed to parents. The compact outlines school, parent, and student responsibilities necessary for effective learning to take place.

Types of Parental Engagement

The GISD Director of Instructional Services, in coordination with the Principal, provides technical assistance and other support necessary to help the school plan and implement effective parental engagement efforts. Realizing the value of parents and their contribution to the partnership of creating successful students, the input will be requested to assist education personnel in building upon that partnership relationship to strengthen ties between home and school.

The following are possible opportunities for home-school partnerships that parents are encouraged to take advantage of throughout the year.

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- H.O. Whitehurst Elementary School-Parent Compact
- Annual Title I meeting
- GISD website and campus homepage
- Parent Surveys
- Various campus activities

Questions, concerns, and/or comments may be directed to the campus principal, Kimberly J. Carter at (254)729-4104 or email k.carte@groesbeckisd.net.