

# **Biggersville Elementary**

## **Parental Involvement Policy 2008-09**

The faculty and staff of Biggersville School believe that parental involvement in the educational activities of the school is essential to a student's success or failure in his/her academic endeavors. In keeping with the core belief held by all teachers at Biggersville Elementary, the following parental involvement policy is set forth:

**Biggersville Elementary shall require every student in attendance to complete and sign a parent, teacher, student compact which shall be on file in each homeroom teacher's room.**

Parent compacts will be distributed in September. Teachers shall check these to insure that all students sign and return them to the homeroom teachers.

**Biggersville Elementary shall require all students and parents to sign a computer use statement as well as an internet release form giving or denying permission for a student's picture and/or work to be displayed on the internet.**

Acceptable Use Policy and parental consent forms are included in the Alcorn School District Student Handbook. Each parent is asked to read the handbook in its entirety. Parents are expected to sign all forms included in the Handbook and return to their child's homeroom teacher. Forms shall be maintained on file in the School Office.

**Biggersville Elementary will conduct parent teacher conferences at least semi-annually. The date for the first parent conference is September 25, 2008. A second conference will be scheduled at the parent's convenience during the second semester of school.**

During the first conference, the parent/teacher/student compact shall be discussed at it relates to the individual child's achievement, with a copy maintained on file at the school. Parents shall be provided a copy of their child's Mississippi Curriculum Test, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition individual score reports. The individual child's strengths and weaknesses shall be discussed, along with suggested strategies for parents to use at home to become involved in their child's education.

**Biggersville Elementary's Parental Involvement Policy shall be distributed to parents and a copy kept on file in the school office.**

**The Biggersville Elementary faculty will provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress.**

Biggersville teachers will send work/test folders home with each student weekly. The folders will contain the tests for that week, classroom work, activity announcements, and other informational materials as appropriate.

**Biggersville Elementary will provide reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and schedule observation of classroom activities, as appropriate, to improve student achievement.**

Biggersville teachers will encourage parents to participate in school activities through memos, notes, letters, and verbal communication. Examples of activities in which parents are encouraged to participate include:

- Open House
- Sporting Events
- Annual Homecoming
- Class Parties
- Thanksgiving Meal
- Class Projects and Plays/Programs

Because close ties between parents, teachers, and school administration makes for a sound learning environment, Biggersville Elementary encourages participation in the Biggersville Parent Teacher Association. The PTA has a representative member of the group on campus daily to assist with various activities. PTA members are active in fund raisers, fall festival, campus/building beautification. Other activities in which PTA is involved include:

- Providing prizes and presenting awards for high achievers in the Accelerated Reader program;
- Providing and presenting academic awards;
- Judging contests;
- Hosting Teacher Appreciation Week; and
- Volunteering in the classrooms, library, and at sporting events.

**Biggersville Elementary administration will regularly contact parents when students are referred for disciplinary reasons.**

The Principal will call parents to alert them of potential or existing problems with their child. If telephone contact cannot be made, letters will be sent home with the students which must be signed and returned to notify parents of problems.

**Biggersville Elementary will hold an annual parent awareness meeting for input in the Title I program.**

At this meeting parents will be encouraged to provide feedback on the Title I services provided to students, both in regard to quality of services being provided and additional services recommended to improve student achievement.

**Biggersville School will solicit parental input on policies and procedures in place at the school through questionnaires, interviews, and surveys, such as:**

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) parental surveys;
- Title I Effectiveness of Programs Survey
- Dropout Prevention Surveys
- Participation on advisory and planning committees

- Monthly Calendar
- Biggersville Elementary link to the Alcorn District website;
- Letters from teachers and administration

**Biggersville School will encourage a partnership between school and parents in the following ways:**

- Provide assistance to parents/guardians of children in understanding the state's academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards, state and local assessments, monitoring a child's progress, and work with educators to improve the achievement of their child.
- Provide materials and training (such as literacy, technology, etc.) to help parents/guardians work with their children;
- Educate teachers and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents/guardians and how to effectively communicate with and work with parents/guardians as equal partners;
- Implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs that will build ties between school/home;
- Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with public preschool and other programs and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents/guardians in more fully participating in the education of their children;
- Ensure that information is sent to the parents/guardians of participating children in a format and language that they understand;
- Arrange school meetings at a variety of times; or conduct in-home conferences between teachers and other educators, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this policy, the school, to the extent practicable, will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/guardians with limited English proficiency or disabilities, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language understandable to them