

# Gilpin Manor Elementary School

## Title 1

### Parent Involvement Policy



2009-2010

Hello Gilpin Manor Elementary Families!

In Title 1 Federal Guidelines, it states “schools receiving Title 1 funds must have a written parent involvement plan that was developed with input from parents.” In this policy, you will find the ideas that were developed by the Parent Involvement Team and staff together at the Title 1 End-of-Year Review. We greatly appreciate the families who attended meetings and supported this effort. In addition, we wanted to give others who were not able to attend the chance to provide input/suggestions as well. This policy will be distributed and discussed with parents during an annual Open House orientation in the fall. A copy of the Cecil County Public School District Policy will be sent home in the county’s school calendar to each family. A copy of the Gilpin Manor Elementary School Title I Parent Involvement Policy will be sent to all families at the beginning of school year with all the children. We appreciate the teamwork of parents, teachers, and students that lead to overall student success!

Families are the first teachers of their children; therefore, it is vital that the home and school work together to assure academic success for each child. Opportunities for parents, guardians and other family members to become involved in their child’s educational experience will be offered at Gilpin Manor Elementary School and will be supported at the district level. Gilpin Manor Elementary School intends to include families in all aspects of the county’s Title 1 program.

***PARENTING:*** Assisting all families in establishing home environments that support children as students from pre-school through grade five.

🍏 Provide monthly parenting workshop opportunities through Second Cup Parent Information Meetings. Topics to include: Special Education Parent Resource Center, Child Safety, Technology, ADHD, MSA, State and local assessments, Title I requirements, Parental Information and Resource Centers (PIRC: [www.mdpirc.org](http://www.mdpirc.org)), and community resources.

🍏 Host Partners In Print Family Night for grades Pre-K through 1<sup>st</sup> grade that focus on literacy. During family nights, provide opportunities for families to work in stations together and learn hands-on ideas to use at home. Meetings held in November & April.

🍏 Story Time at Rudy Park Community Center. A monthly meeting for children birth to four years old provides an opportunity for parents to learn various ways to read aloud with young children.

🍏 Ready @ Five Kits for children Pre-School and Pre-K. These family kits provide various supplemental activities and materials to support parents working with their toddlers at home.

🍏 Provide Parents As Partners *Kids Learn* summer enrichment book for students in Kindergarten through Fourth grade. The goal of *Kids Learn* is to prevent the learning loss during the summer vacation while engaging parents in their child’s learning.

***COMMUNICATION:*** Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.

🍏 Notification of Title 1 School-wide Program, Parents Right To Know, and Title 1 Complaint Procedures included in first newsletter issue in September. Parent comments and concerns may be submitted in writing to the school office or to a school administrator.

🍏 Monthly school newsletter and Home & School Connection Newsletter containing Principal’s message, Parent Involvement Page, grade level news, PTA, upcoming events, and suggested home activities.

- 🍏 Parents will be notified about their child's progress and receive interpretation of students assessment results during Parent/Teacher conferences in November, quarterly Interim Progress Reports, and classroom newsletters.
- 🍏 Upon parent request, Family Involvement Advisor will provide Home-School Learning Totes of materials for parents to use with their children to support learning at home.
- 🍏 Annual Open House provided in September to inform parents of Title 1 purpose and benefits.
- 🍏 On-going communication through daily Homework folders, Connect-Ed, e-mail, letters, school and/or classroom web page, and PowerSchool Parent Portal.
- 🍏 A Spanish interpreter is available upon request to interpret materials sent home through phone calls and home visits.
- 🍏 The school will provide information and opportunities for parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities to participate in programs, workshops, and visitations.

***VOLUNTEERING:*** Recruiting and organizing families as volunteers to support students and school programs.

- 🍏 Family Involvement Advisor will provide volunteer orientations and notifications of upcoming volunteer training from Carver Center.
- 🍏 Family Involvement Advisor will work with classroom teachers to inform parents about volunteer opportunities both in the classroom and at home.
- 🍏 Opportunity to participate and become a member in PTA.

***LEARNING AT HOME:*** Engage families with their children by providing information and ideas on how to help at home, including homework and other curriculum-related activities.

- 🍏 Host events where information and ideas about how to help your child at home will be presented and hands-on activities will be provided to practice the ideas as a family.
  - Partners In Print (Pre-K-1<sup>st</sup> gr.)-November & April
  - Ready @ Five/PAT Group Mtg. (Pre-School-Pre-K)-monthly meeting
  - Story Time @ Rudy Park (two-five years old)-monthly meeting
  - Baldrige Bash-Literacy & Math Night-school-wide event held in October (Math) April (Literacy).
  - Provide books to students to keep through RIF to take home and share with families-three times a year.

***DECISION MAKING:*** Opportunities will be provided for families to share their expertise, to be involved and share in decision making.

- 🍏 Title 1 Schoolwide Program and Title I Parental Involvement Funds will be discussed during the Open House in September;
- 🍏 School-Parent Compact and Title I Parent Involvement Policy will be jointly reviewed, revised and developed at the End of Year Mtg. in May. Parents also review parent involvement activities and improvement of the parent involvement policy.
- 🍏 Classroom visitations-American Education Week and Special Persons' Day held in November.
- 🍏 Grade level parent involvement activities:
  - Grade 2 Time for Reading Non-Fiction in October.
  - Pre-K, K, & 1<sup>st</sup> Gr. Partners In Print in November & April.
  - Baldrige Bash Math & Literacy Nights-Math in October, Literacy in April.
- 🍏 Second Cup Parent Information Meetings-monthly- opportunity for parents to formulate suggestions, to participate and assist instructional teachers, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- 🍏 PTA Meetings-October, January, March, & May
- 🍏 Parent Focus Mtg.-October, March, & May: Provide feedback/suggestions on working with parents.
- 🍏 School Improvement Mtg.-monthly-Topics on Parent Involvement will be discussed and recommended.

***COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY:*** Parental activities will be coordinated throughout the year in collaboration with the following programs and community agencies to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development.

🍏MRDC-Head Start

🍏Judy Center Partnership

🍏Elkton Police Department-Safety Resource Officer

🍏Mentors & Volunteers from GORE and Union Hospital.

🍏After-school Programs

- Elkton Presbyterian Church-Wednesdays
- Elkton Parks & Recreation-Monday thru Thursday
- Chess Club-Tuesday
- Scrabble Club w/ Mrs. Keen, Challenge Teacher-Wednesday

🍏Story Time @ Rudy Park Community Center with Elkton Public Library-monthly

🍏PTA Family Nights

- McDonald's
- Jakes Hamburgers
- Pizza Hut