

Parent and Community Engagement Plan

The mission of Maury Middle School is to challenge students to excel in academic achievement, social development, and extracurricular opportunities. We believe it is our responsibility to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency in Tennessee academic achievement standards and academic assessments. We value the role parents play as their children's first teacher and the influences of their continued support to promote higher student academic achievement and school performance.

The following outline is in compliance with the legal requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The document represents joint development with parents, community members, teachers, and principal. The policy will be available to all parents through the Student and Parent Handbook and the school's website.

1. Parents and community members will have an opportunity to assist in developing the building plan, review the program and make suggestions. To accomplish this:
 - a. All parents and community members will be invited to an annual Open House event prior to the end of September to maximize the opportunity for participation. The following will be discussed:
 - i. School objectives and instructional methods
 - ii. Teacher and paraprofessional qualifications (Parental "right to know" concerning Highly Qualified status)
 - iii. Test scores and how schools are identified for school improvement
 - iv. School organization, curriculum, and policies
2. Support will be provided to parents and teachers as they plan and implement effective parent involvement. We will:
 - a. Provide parent workshops and activities based on the assessed needs and interests.
 - b. Develop a Parent/Teacher/Student Compact in cooperation with both parents and teachers promoting its use for the betterment of the students.
 - c. Provide a facility that will be a working site for parents to hold meetings/workshops, work on projects, and obtain materials to encourage parents to support their child's learning.
 - d. Provide current, reputable parent literature/materials in a format that is understandable to parents.
3. In order to promote the school's and parent's capacity to form a strong partnership and work toward higher student academic achievement we will:
 - a. Assist parents in such areas as the state standards, assessment, and how to monitor their child's progress
 - b. Encourage parents to visit during the school day; promote "open-door" policy
 - c. Inform parents of school activities through newsletters, phone calls, web sites, email, school sign, and other media.

- d. Encourage staff to have regular two-way communication with parents through parent conferences, progress reports, home visits, classroom newsletters, school web site and provide opportunities for observation of classroom activities.
 - e. Cooperate with agencies and other resources to promote training for parents.
 - f. Encourage the education of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff members with the value of parent involvement in the school.
 - g. Make information available in a language that parents can understand.
 - h. Provide training to parents to work with their children to improve their academic achievement. Such training will include literacy and technology.
4. Maury Middle School will encourage coordination of parent involvement activities with Jefferson County Family Resource Center and Jefferson County Central Office staff. Every effort will be made to involve community members in event planning.
5. Parents and community members will participate in the annual evaluation of the content and effect of the parent involvement policy and practice. They will consider:
- a. Increasing parent involvement
 - b. Ways to overcome barriers which may limit participation for those who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited literacy, have limited English proficiency or are any racial/ethnic minority background.
6. Parents and community members will have the opportunity to serve on a committee to develop school policies and procedures, including the school-parent compact. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers and administrators with comments and concerns about Maury Middle School. We believe that the education and well being of our students is our primary concern. Success in these areas is best achieved through a partnership with students, parents, teachers, administration, and community.

MMS School, Student and Parent Compact

We agree that this *School, Student and Parent Compact* outlines how the entire school staff, the students and the parents will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

School Responsibilities: Maury Middle School will:

- Provide a safe environment, high-quality curriculum and differentiated instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards.
- Be responsible, respectful, and ready to help all students learn each day.

Student Responsibilities: We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, we will:

- Do homework every day and ask for help when needed.
- Bring necessary materials to class, complete assignments, and do homework.
- Know and follow all school rules.
- Respect the school, classmates, staff, and families.
- Communicate regularly with my parents and teachers about school experiences so that they can help me to be successful in school.
- Be responsible, respectful, and ready to learn each day.

Parent Responsibilities: We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitor attendance and tardiness.
- Provide a quiet time and place for homework
- Make sure that homework is completed.
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.
- Promote positive use of my child's extracurricular time.
- Stay informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Be responsible, respectful, and ready to help my child learn each day.

What this school is or wishes to become depends on what the students are or wish to become. This is not something that can be given to you; rather, it must come from within. The faculty may initiate it, but the student body must complete it-or it won't be completed at all. Don't wait on someone to make your situation better, begin the task yourself. We promise to help you and support you along the way. If you win, **we win.**