

SOUTH HALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY 2009-2010

It is the belief of South Hall Middle School stakeholders that a thriving partnership must exist between teachers, students, and parents for students to flourish and reach their full potential. Therefore, we implement the following programs to involve parents at South Hall Middle School.

- 1) All parents are invited to PTO meetings throughout the school year. We have transformed these gatherings to meet the needs of the parents. After Curriculum Night, the remaining PTO meetings follow the PTO Survey findings to better support our parents. Topics might include: parenting skills, test-taking exercises, technology awareness, available interventions, etc. **Transportation assistance, a student program, and child care are provided to increase parental participation.**
- 2) Curriculum Night, held early in the school year, allows parents the opportunity to follow their child's schedule; meet each teacher; and learn how to contact teachers, help their children with homework, and experience a part of their child's education.
- 3) One PTO meeting each year is designated for the purpose of informing parents of their school's participation in Title I and to explain the program, its requirements, and their right to be involved. **Meeting date: August 25, 2009**
- 4) We begin our school year with a 6th grade orientation for students and parents, and then hold an open house for 7th and 8th grade parents on a separate night to better serve both groups. We encourage all parents to meet their children's teachers, tour the school, learn about our programs, and sign up for their Infinite Campus code to allow them to check their students' progress at any time.
- 5) South Hall Middle School welcomes parents to come and eat lunch with their children and for conferences when a parent, teacher, or student has a need. We provide a parent liaison for Spanish speakers.
- 6) Our parent liaison and ESOL staff work together to plan **monthly** parent education and involvement programs for our ESOL students. This plan is posted on the parent section of our website and given to all ESOL students to take to their parents.
- 7) The School Advisory Council reviews programs and concerns, and creates a teacher-parent-student compact that outlines how all will share the responsibility to increase student achievement.
- 8) Parent volunteers are welcomed throughout the year. A sign-up sheet is sent home with students with a variety of during and after school activities for parents to have as options to participate.
- 9) Continuous communication to assist parents in understanding their child's achievements and the school's curriculum is made available through report cards, progress reports, student agendas, **the Infinite Campus website**, and newsletters **(including math information for each unit with concepts, vocabulary, and ways to practice skills at home).**

Because parents are our students' first teachers and help influence our students' understanding and valuation of their educational journey, we are dedicated to reaching out to parents in as many ways as we are capable.