

SOUTH HALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY 2011-2012

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 parenting meetings throughout the school year. We have transformed these gatherings to meet the needs of the parents. After Curriculum Night, the remaining meetings will focus on the 40 Developmental Assets all students need to be healthy, caring, and responsible (see <http://www.search-institute.org/content/40-developmental-assets-adolescents-ages-12-18>). Meetings will be held in the mornings and evenings to allow more parents to attend.

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 30, 2011**

4) We begin our school year with an Open House for students and parents. 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 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 available during Open House with a variety of during and after school activities for parents to have as options to participate. *Contact the school office anytime during the school year if you are interested in volunteering!*

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 – available on the website or through paper copy if requested).

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.