

Cook Elementary School Title I Parent Involvement Policy

The Cook County School System recognizes families are a major influence on their children's academic achievement and throughout life. Recognizing the contributions supportive adults involved in the school will make, the Cook County Board of Education, superintendent, administrators, teachers, and staff are committed to parent involvement and to encouraging parents to become partners in developing successful students. Parents are encouraged to assist in activities such as: holiday celebrations, Renaissance Rocks, Scholastic Book Fairs, Accelerated Reader Store, Parents in Power, Mentor Program, Lil' Hornet Academic Celebration, Academic Intramurals, Field Day, and CRCT Celebration.

In order to build an effective home-school partnership, Cook Elementary will provide the following:

1. An annual orientation meeting where parents will meet their child's teacher and be reassured of their right and responsibility to be involved in their child's education.
2. A flexible number of meetings and activities throughout the year to assist parents in understanding the federal and state academic content and student achievement standards, as well as local academic assessments. Meetings will also focus on how parents and teachers can work together to monitor the child's progress in order to improve student achievement.
3. A varied schedule for meetings and conferences in order to accommodate the needs of parents.
4. A minimum of one scheduled parent conference per six weeks for struggling students, where the progress of the student will be discussed as well as the expectations for the grade level, school curriculum, test information and any other concerns that the teacher or parent may have.
5. Continuous communication to assist parents in understanding the school curriculum and student achievement through The Buzz Newsletter, report cards, , Lil' Hornet Student and Parent Handbook, progress reports, Student Learning Maps, handouts, and mailings. Newsletters will include parenting tips and suggestions. All invitations will be sent in a timely manner with an additional follow-up reminder.
6. A school-parent compact designed by parents and school staff that outlines how parents, school staff and students share the responsibility for improving learning.
7. Every year, a survey for all parents shall be conducted to collect opinions and concerns of parents about the current program and to collect suggestions for improvement and topics for meetings that meet the needs of parents.

Every effort will be made to communicate with parents in a format and language that is easily understandable by all. Resources are available for parents whose native language is not English. Parents and community member are always to be made welcome at Cook Elementary School.