

PARENT INVOLVEMENT STRATEGIES - DANIEL BOONE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT (PA)

Using parent education as a springboard for developing programs the Daniel Boone Area School District has successfully offered the following programs to solicit support:

Learning Partners – Parent and child attend an after-school program together to gain skills in working at home.

Homework Helpers – Clubs offered after school to help students with homework assignments.

Homework/Organizational Parent Training – Parents are provided with instruction on how to teach their children to be organized, appropriate study habits at home, making education a priority, etc.

Grandparents as Readers – A workshop to provide training to grandparents in effective reading strategies for reading to children as well as appropriate book selections for pre-school and early readers.

Pre-school Parent Workshops – Offers parents information on working with pre-school children on readiness skills as well as providing a profile of a child that is ready to attend kindergarten.

Math Refresher – Provides refresher training on math concepts for parents to be able to assist their children with homework at night.

Remediation Software Training for Parents – Orientation workshop on how to access with a password and use remediation software currently on the District's website from home.

Family Nights – Planned craft, sport, and/or recreational activities for families.

PSSA (state testing) Workshops – Workshops for parents providing background on the importance of PSSA testing as well as strategies to reinforce while working with their children at home.

Making the Most of Career Exploration – Workshop for middle school/high school parents that talks about resources available for their children as they investigate career options, including software programs such as *Discover* available in both Guidance Suites.

Introduction to College Applications/Financial Planning – Offered in the spring for parents of 8th grade students to provide an overview for responsible post-secondary planning.

College Admissions/Financial Planning for High School Parents – Guide to financial aid and how to apply to a college for admission.

Career/Post-secondary Education Planning for Parents of Special Needs Students – A workshop specifically geared to provide guidance and support for realistic choices for these students.

Parenting Skills (Level I and II) – Mini-courses on parenting issues.

Make-It Take It Reading Strategy Workshops for Kindergarten Parents – Training and hands-on activities for parents to support phonemic awareness and reading skill development, offered both during the day and at night for working parents.

Make-It Take It Reading Strategy Workshops for Grade 1 Parents – Training and hands-on activities for parents to support phonemic awareness and reading skill development, offered both during the day and at night.

Title I and ESL Parent Orientation Programs

Book Buddy Packets

Packets that include a book, activity sheets and a list of suggested extension activities for a parent to become engaged in their child's learning. Currently we distribute these to local food banks, as well as participating Pediatric and Dental offices.

Online Grade-book

Parents in grades 3-12 have access to their child's grades via our District web page.

Parent Resource Links

A parent resource section is being added to our District Website to offer informative links for parents on topics such as wellness/nutrition, parenting, District and building-specific information, etc.

Parent – School Pledge

Parents of children in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade are encouraged to commit to a pledge in partnership with their local school. Signed by both the parent and the building administrator, the *Pledge* reaffirms that:

The Parent will...

As the most important influence in my child's educational success, I pledge to:

1. Provide a home environment that will encourage my child to develop a positive attitude towards school.
2. Provide physical care to prepare students for school-diet, rest and clothing.
3. Help my child appreciate and enjoy the excitement in learning and the thrill of an inquiring mind.

4. Promote my child's self-esteem by giving him opportunities to build competence and confidence; by giving specific praise for work and displaying it for others to see; by letting my child share in family responsibilities and decisions.
5. Support the Daniel Boone Area School District and its' regulations, participate in school events and parent-teacher conferences, and resolve any concerns with school personnel in a positive, productive manner.
6. Encourage respect for other children, all school personnel and for property.
7. Remind my child of the necessity of discipline in the classroom, especially self-discipline.
8. Provide my child the necessary encouragement, supervision and tools to complete homework assignments and school projects.
9. Set an example for my child by being a lifelong learner myself.
10. Enjoy my child as we grow and learn together.

The school will...

As a school, we believe that student learning is our first priority. In order to accomplish our mission we pledge to:

1. Provide a safe and positive learning environment.
2. Provide all students with opportunities to learn.
3. Hold the education of each child as a priority.
4. Provide quality educational opportunities for all students to insure that they become responsible, productive and versatile members of society.
5. Respect students for their intrinsic worth.
6. Be positive role models.
7. By example, model being a life-long learner.
8. Welcome and involve parents and the community in the learning process.
9. Allocate appropriate and quality resources to support learning to ensure that all children can reach their potential.
10. Provide timely and accurate feedback to parents and students to facilitate appropriate follow-up instructional activities be scheduled.

Examples of ongoing activities to facilitate parental involvement and engagement include:

- Volunteer opportunities
- Agenda Planner
- PTA Involvement
- Positive phone calls by staff
- “Good News” Postcards
- Homework Hotline
- Parent Handbook for School Bus Safety
- Student Assistance Program Referral Involvement
- Team meetings with parents
- Building/Grade/Teacher-level Newsletters
- Principal Advisory Groups
- District Newsletter
- Opportunities to coach, judge and chaperone student activities
- Parental signatures required on tests, agenda planners, etc.
- Availability of Special Education Student Tracking Update Forms and Weekly Guidance Reports
- F.E.L.T. (Fostering Emergent Literacy Together) Book Bags from our Lending Libraries
- Fall Family Festivals
- Curriculum Review Nights
- Instructional Support Teams Take-Home Kits
- Family Fun Nights
- Family Activities (Roller skating, hiking, assemblies)
- Town Meetings with the Superintendent
- Parenting Newsletters published by *The Parent Institute* are distributed:
 - “*Fair, Firm and Consistent*”
 - “*Building Readers*”
 - “*Reading Readiness*”
 - “*Parents Make A Difference*”
- Parent Resource Library in the District Office
- Lending Video Library
- New Family Orientation Programs
- Pre-K Story-Time
- Transition meetings for parents of children:
 - Pre-Kindergarten through Kindergarten
 - Kindergarten – 1st grade
 - Grades 2nd – 3rd
 - Grades 5th – 6th
 - Grades 8th – 9th