Magnet Cove Elementary Family and Parent Engagement Implementation Plan

Research has shown that parents as partners make a positive difference in student school performance. School and parent partnerships will promote the social, emotional, and academic growth of children. Parents, teachers, community members and schools must strive to develop meaningful opportunities to become involved in the education of their children.

COMMUNICATING WITH FAMILIES AND COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY

The Magnet Cove Elementary Parent Involvement Plan recognizes that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful. It encourages communication between home and school through phone calls, written contact, and e-mail. In addition, two (2) parent/teacher conference meetings are held during the school year to engage parents in meaningful dialogue about the progress of their children.

Magnet Cove Elementary School recognizes that Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning.

We establish committees consisting of parents, alumni, community members, teachers, and administrators to provide input regarding school improvement.

The following events and activities take place to encourage parent involvement:

- Annual Public Meeting
- Open House
- Weekly newsletter with upcoming events, meetings and other important information for families. Parents may choose to receive and electronic or paper version, or both.
- Volunteer survey given to parents at the beginning of each school year
- WatchD.O.G.S. program for dads. District covers cost of required background checks.
- Panther Parent Organization (PPO) yearly membership drive
- One school wide parent-teacher conference each semester and additional conferences scheduled at parent request or as needed.
- Grandparent’s Day lunch each September
- Family Thanksgiving Luncheon in November
- Muffins for Moms each December
- Loved Ones lunch during spring semester to encourage involvement of other adults who play active roles in the student’s lives and they are able to participate in the Book Fair at this time as well
- Parent night during the library Book Fair – parents attend and volunteer
- Information for parents explaining required state testing and ways parents can help their children prepare for tests
- Yearly Carnival organized by PPO with parent volunteers
- Picnic on the Playground in the spring to get families involved in outdoor play with their children
- Donuts for Dads each May
- Elementary Track and Field Day each May
- Additional evening meetings for parents and students such as Family Science Night etc.
- Electronic sign constantly updated with events and activities for parents and students
- School web-site, with individual teacher sites, and District Facebook all containing school and district information
- A Comprehensive Needs Survey is available to parents during the spring semester so parents are able to provide feedback and make suggestions pertaining to Magnet Cove Elementary School.

PARENTING AND STUDENT LEARNING

Magnet Cove Elementary School recognizes that a parent is a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.

Magnet Cove Elementary School promotes and supports parenting skills and programs.

To enable parents to take an active role in the education of their children:
**HAC accessible through school website for parents to monitor child’s progress**

- Folders sent home daily containing student’s completed work and/or homework and/or behavior information, and any additional information sent home in paper form. A sheet is included in folder with an area for comments from teacher/parent.

- A new Standards-Based Report Card that provides parents with information on student’s level of mastery on specific grade level standards and the student’s current DRA Reading Level two times per year.

- Teacher websites updated weekly with classroom information and also include teacher email address

**Information made available through our Elementary Parent Center:**

- Tips for parents are placed in our school newsletter and on the web site to promote effective and responsible parenting.

- The elementary parent center located in the elementary building is accessible to parents and provides materials to assist and inform them on a variety of topics including parenting skills and ways to help their children achieve in school. Helpful material can also be provided upon request of parent by the parent involvement facilitator.

**Available in the Library:**
The media center at Magnet Cove Elementary School is set up to participate effectively in the school programs as it strives to meet the needs of pupils, teachers, parents and other community members. We hope to provide boys and girls with the library materials and services most appropriate and most meaningful in their growth and development as individuals. We will strive to stimulate and guide pupils in all phases of their reading so that they may find increasing enjoyment and satisfaction and may grow in critical judgment and appreciation. Some services offered to students by the media center:

- Books for recreational reading, research and factual information.

- Audio-visual materials and equipment for educational experiences.

- Newspapers and magazines for current information on news of the home, community, state and world affairs.

- Access codes for home use of databases

- Weekly newsletter

- Access to library databases for school and home access

**Available from the Counselor:**
The guidance offices are open to all students in grades K-4. The Counselor’s Office is a place where students may express their feelings and opinions freely knowing that all information will be regarded as confidential. The counselor is prepared to help students with educational planning and social and personal adjustment. Group counseling will be available to K-4 classrooms on a regularly scheduled basis.

- The Magnet Cove Elementary Counselor’s webpage provides a variety of information including;

- Parenting Tips

- Information regarding the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet at Magnet Cove Elementary

- Educational Websites

- Information pertaining to school-wide initiatives

**Leslee Eskola, Library Media Specialist**
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501-337-9131

**Jan Whisenhunt, K-5 Counselor**
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501-337-9131

**VOLUNTEERING AND ADVOCACY**

Parents receive an information packet at Open House which includes the following:
- Web-page address
- Student-Parent Handbook which includes a school calendar for the current year and Calendar of Special activities planned through the year
- Tips and ideas for parents and their children
- Information regarding use of student folders
- Rules regarding the drop-off and dismissal procedures using the Car Rider Pro System and how to sign up for a secure car line tag.
- Elementary School Safety Tip Sheet

Building Facilitator: Jan Whisenhunt
District Coordinator: Candiss Bennett
Title I schoolwide status
Committee Members:
  Whitney McCutcheon, Principal
  Jan Whisenhunt, Counselor/Facilitator
  Stephanie Jones, School Board Member
  Mollie Martin, Parent
  Crystal Tanner, Parent
  Rachel Wilson, Parent
  Carrie Hignight, Parent
  Miranda Mabry, Teacher
  Nicole Lasagna, Teacher