

Iditarod Elementary School Family Engagement Policy

Our Vision

Iditarod Elementary strives to partner with families and the community to prepare students for academic and personal success.

Title I

Iditarod Elementary recognizes that students may need the extra assistance available through the Title I program to reach the state's high academic standards. Iditarod intends to include parents in all aspects of the school's Title I program. The goal is a home-school partnership that will help all students to succeed and shall be done through the following steps:

- A. Parent Involvement Policy:** Iditarod will jointly develop and revise with parents the school parent involvement policy by asking for revisions during the first semester of school. We will make the plan available to the community by posting it on our website and including it in information that goes home with each child from their classroom teacher.
- B. Annual Meeting:** Iditarod will hold an annual meeting during Open House/Orientation Night at the start of the school year. All parents will be invited and encouraged to attend. The Title I Plan and its requirements will be explained at this meeting. Parents will also be informed of their right to be involved in the development and revision of the Title I Plan.
- C. Title I Planning Meeting Times:** Iditarod will hold quarterly meetings to review and develop our Title I Plan. Most meetings will be held after school to accommodate parents who work. Additional meeting times in the morning will be made available at least twice a year. Iditarod may provide funds to help parents with childcare or transportation to attend meetings.

D. School-Parent Compact: Our compact is always available via the Federal Programs link on our webpage. The compact explains the ways the school staff, parents, and students work together to increase student achievement. Parents can suggest changes to the compact annually during the first semester of school.

E. Communicating the Curriculum:

- Iditarod holds Parent-Teacher Conferences twice a year where curricular and program materials are out and available for parents to look through.
- If requested by parents, teachers will schedule meetings to formulate suggestions and to allow full participation as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children.

F. Suggestions on the Title I Plan: Parent comments and suggestions regarding the Title I Plan may be made at meetings, in writing, and through email to the Principal as referenced on our website. Evaluations are conducted at all Title I events and parent suggestions are collected at that time.

G. Shared Responsibility for Student Achievement: The Iditarod staff, parents, and students shall work together to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement by:

- Conducting Parent-Teacher conferences two times per year and by appointment.
- The Compact shall be discussed as it relates to an individual child's achievement.
- Communicating progress through events, meetings, email, phone, progress notes, or letters home.
- Communicating opportunities for online learning and resources for at home learning.
- Providing parents with reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate, and observe in their child's classroom.
- Holding regular meetings where parents can make suggestions and participate in decisions related to the education of their children.

H. Understanding Standards and Assessments: To ensure and support effective involvement of parents to participate in improving student academic achievement, Iditarod Elementary shall provide assistance to parents in understanding the State's academic content standards and the State student academic achievement standards. Teachers will work with parents to explain how to monitor their child's progress and work together to improve the achievement of their child.

I. Family Events: Iditarod Elementary hosts at least four family engagement events a year. At each of the events we focus on providing grade level materials for families that foster parental involvement and to help families work with their children to improve their achievement in literacy, math, and writing.

J. Translation Services: Iditarod makes every effort to provide translation services to families where English is a second language. Translation services are available for parent-teacher conferences, family engagement events, and any other time upon request. Translated documents and school reports are also made available as needed.

Iditarod Elementary is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community.

- ***Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by our children.***
- ***Neither home nor school can do the job alone.***
- ***Parents play an extremely important role as a child's first teacher. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success along the way.***