



## **Gentry Intermediate School**

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*Mrs. Denise Waters, Principal*

### **Title I - Parental Involvement Plan**

We the faculty and staff of Gentry Intermediate School (GIS) believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and our school. We promote positive communication between the school and our students' homes. GIS provides a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in activities supporting our school. We believe teachers have a responsibility to provide the needed framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. We will provide materials that can successfully be used at home to reinforce the academic success of our students. It is our goal to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving. We want parents to understand that we view them as partners in decision and policymaking and plan to emphasize their roles as advocates and resources.

The Gentry Intermediate Parent Advisory Committee (P.A.C.) that also serves as our Title 1 Parental Involvement Committee, consists of our Teacher Parental Involvement Coordinator, our principal, parents, grandparents, and community members. The P.A.C. met to analyze data from parent surveys and discussions with teachers, administrators, parents and community members. Using this data, the committee led a process to develop the following list of services and activities to promote parental involvement and provide additional support for student learning:

1. School staff will use a variety of communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.
  - Gentry Intermediate employs Highly Qualified Teachers who continue to engage in a minimum of 60 hours of Professional Development training and workshops including at least two hours of Parent Involvement Strategies each year.
  - Parents have the right to know the professional qualifications of their child's teacher.
  - GIS will notify parents by mail if any teacher has not met state licensing requirements for the grade level and subjects in which the teacher is providing instruction.
  - The school will distribute a monthly newsletter to parents that is developed with participation of the Parent Teacher Organization, principal, staff and parent volunteers. It includes school news, a calendar of school activities, and parenting tips relating to school achievement such as homework tips, organizational skills, and study skills.
  - GIS also sends home a monthly "Helping Children Learn" "Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School" from our principal.

## **Gentry Intermediate School Parental Involvement Plan (Continued)**

- The Gentry School District Website: [gentrypioneers.com](http://gentrypioneers.com) houses the Gentry Intermediate School Website. Teachers may create classroom websites that are linked to this page. Pertinent classroom information will be available on classroom websites. Also parents can access their child's Accelerated Reader (AR) tests from home using a user name and password provides to them by our Media Specialist. Parents may use e-mail to communicate with members of the school staff.
  - Each teacher will send home a folder containing student papers and work samples each week. Parents may be asked to sign the folder and send it back to school.
  - Teachers will routinely contact parents on an individual basis to communicate about their child's progress.
  - GIS will provide to parents midterm progress reports as well as quarterly report cards with information regarding their child's academic progress.
  - GIS will provide a parent-friendly explanation of their child's test results and standardized test scores at the first Parent Teacher Conference.
  - GIS will offer parents the opportunity to serve on the Parent Advisory Committee which meets on the first Friday of each month with the principal and Teacher Parent Involvement Coordinator. The Parent Advisory Committee plays an integral part in developing the Gentry Intermediate School Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP).
  - GIS will send fliers home with students, post notices in school facilities and public buildings, and provide information for local newspapers about parent workshops and meetings.
  - GIS will use the student handbook, school Web site, pen House, and Grade Level Parent Nights to inform parents about the School-wide Title I Plan and how to get a copy upon request.
2. Gentry Intermediate School (GIS) will hold parent meetings, conferences, and activities regularly throughout the year to increase parental involvement and build staff capacity to engage in these types of efforts.
- These meetings will include parent-training sessions to help parents understand how to enhance their child's education.
  - The meetings will be held at various times during the day or evening to better accommodate parents.
  - Outside speakers will provide parents with more information concerning ways to make their child's behavioral and academic life more successful.
  - GIS will hold an Open House for parents before the first day of school to inform them about the school's participation in the Title I program and to encourage parents to be involved with reviewing and revising of the School's Title I Plan.
  - Teachers will hold conferences individually with parents of children in their classrooms. Parents will be given a summary of the student's test scores and an explanation of the interventions teachers are using to assist the child in reaching achievement goals. Parents will be asked to engage in discussion of how they can support these efforts. Parents will also be given suggestions for coordinating school-parent efforts and explanations of homework and grading procedures.

## Gentry Intermediate School Parental Involvement Plan (Continued)

- GIS will offer parents a special workshop each year to provide an explanation of the statewide assessment systems, standards, and other accountability measures.
  - GIS will engage parents in the following types of roles and activities to increase their involvement and support for student learning:
 

Book Fair Helpers	Open House
Grandparent's Day Lunch	Parent Teacher Organization (P.T.O.)
Award's Assemblies	Red Ribbon Week
Field Day Volunteers	Reading Buddy
Technology Training	Volunteers
Parent Education Workshops	Classroom Parent
Holiday Parties	Field Day Coaches
GIS Variety Show	Field Trip Chaperones
3. GIS will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities.
    - GIS will provide opportunities for parents and community members to support the instructional program through such programs as Career Education, Reading Buddies, tutoring, and Teacher Helper.
    - GIS will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts during Parent/Teacher Conferences. Brief training sessions will provide parents and community members with the information they need to participate as school volunteers in order to put them at ease and make the experience pleasant and successful.
    - Gentry Intermediate School will work with Gentry Primary School and Gentry Middle School to help provide a smooth transition from one school to the next by raising parent awareness of procedures and related activities. The school will host special orientation programs for students to help with the transition. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the new teachers at the Open House before school starts.
  4. GIS will work with parents to create a School-Parent-Student Compact.
    - School staff, parents, and students will develop a school-parent-student compact. This compact will outline how parents, school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. All stakeholders will sign the compact.
  5. The school will provide an opportunity for parents to engage in decision-making processes in regard to the school's Title I, Part A program.
    - The school will involve parents on school improvement planning committees.

**Gentry Intermediate School  
Parental Involvement Plan  
(Continued)**

6. The school will provide a parent resource center for parents.
  - Parents may check out materials, use the computer in the Media Center to access AR, and visit educational Web sites. Parents will be encouraged to view the Title I Plan that is located in the parent resource center. A suggestion sheet will also be available for parental input. The school will open the resource center during school office hours, parent nights, P/T conferences or as arranged.
  
7. The school will engage parents in an evaluation of parental involvement efforts.
  - GIS will engage parents in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A programs' parental involvement efforts through an annual evaluation using a comprehensive Parent Survey and Teacher Survey. The Parent Advisory Committee/Title I Committee, made up of a teacher, parents, grandparents, community members, and administrator, will determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan and make changes if warranted. While collecting evidence about satisfaction with the program and the school's efforts to increase parental involvement will be a part of the evaluation, the survey will also collect specific information on the (1) growth in numbers of parents participating in workshops and meetings; (2) specific needs of parents; (3) effectiveness of specific strategies; and (4) engagement of parents in activities to support student academic growth.