

**J.M. Barnes Elementary**  
**Title 1 School-Wide Parent Involvement Policy**

**Vision**

Parents are their children's first and most important teachers. When the school and parents are involved cooperatively, positive results occur. These include high student achievement, reduced absenteeism, improved behavior, and a feeling of confidence regarding the partnership between home and school.

**Part I: Policy Involvement**

**The Barnes Elementary Title 1 School-Wide Parent Involvement Policy was created as a collaborative effort between parents and staff. Parents played a key role in the development of this policy and we will continue to utilize their feedback and suggestions in order to update and improve our School-Wide Title 1 Program: 1118 (b)**

**Convene an annual meeting: 1118 (c) (1)**

Barnes Elementary School will:

- *Hold an annual school-wide Title 1 Meeting at the first JMBEFSA (PTO) Meeting.*
- *The purpose of the meeting will be to share the School-Wide Plan, review the School Parent Involvement Policy, and to explain our Title 1 program and how parents can be involved to help their child be successful.*
- *Parents will be notified of the meeting through school mail, e-mail, and EduLink informing them of the time to come for the JMBEFSA meeting.*

**Offer flexible meeting times & varied activities designed to support and encourage the involvement of all parents: 1118 (c) (2)**

Barnes Elementary School will ensure the involvement of all parents by offering the following activities:

- *Curriculum Nights (childcare provided)*
- *Parent Workshops (childcare provided)*
- *Parent Conferences*
- *JMBEFSA Activities*
- *Flexible IEP times*
- *Contact with counselors*
- *School-wide family fun night*
- *Classroom Volunteers*

**Involve parents in planning, reviewing, and improving the School-Wide Title 1 program, including the School and District Parent Involvement Policy: 1118 (c) (3)**

Barnes Elementary School will ensure the involvement of parents in planning and reviewing the School-Wide Title 1 program by:

- *Reviewing the School Parent Involvement Policy at the Annual Title 1 Meeting*
- *Posting the Parent Involvement Policy for parents to review during November Parent Teacher conferences in a visible location*
- *Placing a suggestion box located under the visible plan for parents to make suggestions during November Parent Teacher conferences. Share these suggestions with LEA*
- *Reviewing and distributing Parent Compacts at fall conferences*
- *Conducting a Parent Survey at November Parent Teacher conferences for all parents*
- *Reviewing and revising the Parent Involvement Policy to incorporate suggestions based on the Parent Survey results*
- *Placing a suggestion box in a visible location for continued communication between parents and school all year. Reviewing suggestions and comments at monthly JMBEFSA meetings. Acting on these suggestions made by stakeholders as appropriate.*
- *Holding a Title 1 meeting mid-year at flexible times (morning and evening) to review the Title 1 program, parent involvement policy and ask for suggestions for improvement. Provide parents with a short survey so they may provide feedback on the program both in a written and verbal format. These suggestions will be used to revise the parent school compact and parent involvement policy.*
- *Expanding all avenues of communication with parents (school newsletter, classroom newsletters, District publications and website) to increase parent involvement in the School-Title 1 program*

**Provide timely information about the School-Wide Title 1 Program, the academic curriculum, assessments used to measure progress, and grade level expectations: 1118 (c) (4) (A) (B)**

Barnes Elementary School will provide timely information through:

- *Annual Title 1 meeting*
- *Curriculum Nights (childcare provided)*
- *Parent conferences (November/March/additional conferences upon parent request)*
- *School/Classroom Newsletters/District Newsletters*
- *Progress Reports and Report Cards*
- *District Web Site - Policy and Compact available on website*
- *Early Parent Conferences - meet intervention specialists /see intervention programs/discuss student's progress thus far*
- *Parent Workshops (childcare provided)*
- *Home Visits*
- *Daily/weekly Take Home Folders*
- *Telephone Calls/E-mail correspondence*
- *Parent-Student Handbook*

**Provide parents the opportunity to interact with teachers regarding the education of their children. Include parents in the decision making process and utilize their suggestions for improvement. Revise the School-Wide plan to meet student and parent need and share revisions with LEA: 1118 (c) (4) (C) & 1118 (c) (5)**

Barnes Elementary School will provide parents an opportunity to interact with their children's school by:

- *Parent Suggestion Box located in a visible location where parents can provide suggestions for improvement and comments regarding the School-Wide Title 1 program*
- *Include School-Wide Title 1 as a monthly agenda item at JMBEFSA. Go through Parent Suggestion Box at monthly JMBEFSA meetings to discuss both suggestions/positive notes. Utilize parent feedback to revise and update our School-Wide Title 1 program to meet the needs of all parents and students. Share suggestions and comments with the LEA and act on suggestions as appropriate.*
- *Conduct a Parent Survey at November Parent Teacher conferences for all parents*
- *Hold a Title 1 meeting mid-year at flexible times (morning and evening) to review the Title 1 program, parent involvement policy and ask for suggestions for improvement. Provide parents with a short survey so they may provide feedback on the program both in a written and verbal format. These suggestions will be used to revise the parent involvement policy when appropriate.*
- *Parent conferences (November/March/additional conferences upon parent request)*
- *Telephone Calls/E-mail correspondence between parents, teachers and school*

## **Part II: Share Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

**Develop jointly with parents and teachers a School/Parent/Student Compact. The compact will outline ways in which the parents, school staff, and students will work together to ensure high student academic achievement. The compact will be reviewed and discussed during fall parent-teacher conferences: 1118 (d) (1) & 1118 (d) (2) (A)**

Barnes Elementary School will develop a School/Parent/Student compact:

- *The Parent/Teacher/Student compact is developed with JMBEFSA and reviewed annually. Revisions are made based on the JMBEFSA group and additional suggestions provided by parents.*
- *The compact is reviewed and given to all parents at the November Parent-Teacher Conference. Teachers discuss how the compact relates to the success of each individual child. This ensures a strong home/school connection and allows all stakeholders to have a voice.*

### **Provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress: 1118 (d) (2) (B)**

Barnes Elementary School will provide various academic reports to parents:

- *Report Cards (November, January, March and June)*
- *Progress reports available on an as-needed basis*
- *Parent Teacher Conferences (November, March, additional conferences available upon request)*

### **Afford parents reasonable access to staff. Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer, participate and observe in their child's classroom: 1118 (d) (2) (C)**

Barnes Elementary School has an open door policy for parents with both administration and staff. In addition, parents are encouraged to participate in the following activities:

- *JMBEFSA (Parent/Teacher Organization)*
- *Classroom Volunteers*

- *Chaperones for field trips*
- *Room Helpers*
- *Room observations as requested by parents*

### **Part III: Building Capacity for Involvement**

#### **Provide information and assistance to parents regarding the state and local academic standards and assessments: 1118 (e) (1)**

*To ensure that parents are informed about academic standards and assessments, Barnes Elementary School will provide the following:*

- *Parent Conferences (November, March, additional conferences available upon request)*
- *Parent copy of Grade Level Content Expectations provided upon request*
- *ELPA results for ELL students sent to parents*
- *Local assessment information ( MLPP writing assessment, DRA2, district common assessments) shared with parents at conferences*
- *Students receiving additional assistance will be progress monitored on a monthly or bi-weekly basis depending on student need. Information will be shared with parents when appropriate.*
- *Literary Specialist available at conferences to provide information and answer questions about assessments*
- *Meet the Teacher Night: Staff share classroom/school expectations and provide all parents with examples of at home activities to help their child reach their highest potential.*

#### **Provide materials and training to parents: 1118 (e) (2)**

*Barnes Elementary School offers training and materials to parents through the following events and activities:*

- *Fall Curriculum Night (childcare provided)*
- *Meet the Teacher Night*
- *Parent Workshops (childcare provided)*
- *Provide lists of community resources to individual parents and assistance in accessing these resources, as needed*
- *Weekly school newsletters/Classroom newsletters/District publications*
- *"The District" - District cable television program offers segments that educate parents on ways to help their child be successful in all areas of the curriculum*
- *District Website Parent Tab - provides parents with materials and resources to help their child achieve success*

#### **Educate teachers, Title 1 staff and principals regarding the value of parent involvement, ways to communicate effectively with parents, and implementation of parent programs: 1118 (e) (3)**

- *Barnes Elementary School values and respects parent involvement in the school community. Parent involvement will be part of the professional development plan. Staff will attend workshops and implement new ideas for effective parent communication. When situations occur that involve students or the welfare of the entire school community, parents are always the first point of contact. District will in-service teachers on how to utilize district website to post classroom newsletters and add materials and resources to the Parent Tab.*

#### **Coordinate parent involvement activities with other programs: 1118 (e) (4)**

Barnes Elementary School will work to coordinate programs to ensure success for all:

- *Classroom Parent Volunteers*
- *Spirit Night - School wide fun night*
- *JMBEFS*

#### **Inform parents of school and parent programs in a timely and practical format in a language they can understand: 1118 (e) (5)**

To ensure that all parents are informed in a timely and user-friendly manner, Barnes Elementary will provide:

- *Daily/Weekly Take Home Folders*
- *School Newsletter/Classroom Newsletters/District Newsletters written in a language parents can understand*
- *Bilingual interpreter, as needed, through GISD for all parent contacts*
- *Accommodations for deaf parents*

#### **Provide support for parental involvement at their request: 1118 (e) (14)**

*Barnes Elementary School will make every effort to support our parents and make sure their needs are met:*

- *Make every effort to accommodate parent requests to ensure that students and parents individual needs are met in order to foster more positive parent involvement*

### **Part IV: Accessibility**

#### **Parent involvement activities accessible to all parents, including those with disabilities and parents who use English as their 2<sup>nd</sup> language: 1118 (f)**

Barnes Elementary School will provide:

- *Flexible meeting times*
- *Handicapped Accessible Facilities*
- *Home Visits*
- *Phone Conferences (Bilingual interpreter, as needed, through GISD for all parent contacts)*
- *School Newsletter/Classroom Newsletters/District Newsletters written in a language parents can understand*
- *Accommodations for deaf parents*

- *Collaboration with community agencies; i.e., Community Mental Health*
- *Transportation Assistance*