

## **Title I Family Involvement Policy for Belvedere Elementary School**

Fairfax County Public Schools' Title I program is established to improve student achievement and help all students meet the objectives of the Fairfax County Program of Studies and Virginia Standards of Learning.

To ensure that these goals are met, a partnership with families is essential. Therefore, Belvedere Elementary School commits to working in partnership with families in the following ways:

- Inform parents about the No Child Left Behind law at a PTA meeting early in the year.
- Share with parents at Back to School Night the curriculum as structured by the Program of Studies and Standards of learning.
- Present the Home School Compact and Family Involvement Policy to parents at the October PTA meeting.
- Encourage parents to join and participate in the Belvedere PTA. Translators are provided at every meeting.
- Provide parents with an advocacy handbook to help them as they work with their children.
- Parents have the opportunity to volunteer in classrooms, the media center, book publication, and to assist with the Fall Fling, Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction, two Book Fairs, Math Science Night, Belvedere Family Picnic, Young Authors Fair, and Odyssey of the Mind. Parents also have the opportunity make suggestions regarding two curriculum assemblies.
- Conduct workshops/curriculum fairs at a variety of times to provide assistance to families in supporting their child's academic achievement. These include four Partners in Print workshops, Math and Science night, and Young Scholars Family Night. These events increase the ability of teachers, parents, and school staff to work together to improve student performance.
- Inform parents about our schoolwide Responsive Classroom program through letters sent home and articles in the monthly newsletter, *The Belvedere Connection*.

- Communicate formally and informally with families on a regular basis regarding their child's progress in school. Progress reports, interims, emails, phone calls, parent teacher conferences, writing portfolios, school newsletters, and daily homework planners are used for this purpose.
- Provide for a parent liaison to serve our Spanish speaking parents. Her responsibilities include translating letters and other documents, making phone calls, and helping with parent conferences. She shares information with parents about services available to them in the community.
- Inform parents about Belvedere assessment data, as well as FCPS data. Results are explained at PTA meetings and parent conferences.
- Regular visits to homes by FECEP and preschool teachers to promote home/school partnerships. Hold Kindergarten Open House to facilitate the transition to Kindergarten.
- Provide Belvedere families opportunities to interact with our SmartBoard technology using reading, math, science, and social studies activities.
- Develop a Title I Blackboard Course so that Belvedere families will have access to our Home/School Compact and Title I Family Involvement Policy. Parents have opportunities to sign up for a Blackboard account in order to access homework assignments, curriculum related websites, and communicate with teachers.
- Provide opportunities for parents to serve on decision making committees, such as the Curriculum Committees and the School Plan Committees.