

**Family Involvement Policy
For
Brookfield 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 this goal is met, a partnership with families is essential. Therefore, Brookfield Elementary School commits to working in partnership with families in the following ways:

- Families are informed that Brookfield is a Title I School through the website and at a beginning of the year PTA meeting, describing the program goals and purpose.
- Our Parenting Center provides centralized parenting resources, technology access, a preschooler play area and volunteer training support by a parent liaison who works from the Parenting Center.
- *Partners in Print* programs support early literacy instruction in kindergarten and first grade
- Take-home reading programs in grades K-2 encourage nightly reading at an early age
- Our annual Spring Curriculum Night focuses on hands-on activities based on SOL standards in math, social studies, science, and language arts. Take-home activities are planned to assist parents in working with their children at home on targeted SOL skills.
- Families are informed about the school's instructional programs and assessments through the website and at a beginning of the year PTA meeting.
- Parenting workshops are held on topics such as, Cyber bullying, *1-2-3 Magic*, and positive parenting techniques. Translators provide a Listening Device System (headphones) for non-English speaking parents to actively participate, to ask questions and engage in the discussion.
- A series of Hispanic Informative Evenings are conducted in Spanish on a range of parenting topics

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- Informational meetings are held on the Advanced Academic Program and the Human Growth and Development curriculum
- A parenting lending library is available in the lobby with PTA funded resources for parents
- Representation is maintained on the District Advisory Council (DAC)
- Our annual International Night celebrates the diversity of our families
- Kindergarten orientation is held in order for preschoolers and parents to meet kindergarten teachers and learn about what is expected for the next school year
- Back-to-School Night provides parents the opportunity to learn about teacher expectations and school-wide and classroom policies
- Our Family Literacy program through the Adult ESOL Office provides English instruction for our non-native English speaking parents two nights per week along with bi-monthly parent child activities.
- Our Hispanic Early Literacy program through the Office of Family and School Partnerships provides parents of preschoolers with an opportunity to help their children develop early literacy skills at home.

Efforts are made to reduce the barriers to parent involvement so that all families may participate in programs at school. Family involvement at programs is encouraged. Child care is provided at most meetings. Translators are provided at all major school events and conferences. Hispanic and Vietnamese parent liaisons support and facilitate communication with families. We have a number of multilingual support and instructional staff members to support our communication efforts.

Parents are represented on school committees and organizations. We have a parent representative on the Title I District Advisory Council (DAC). Active parent involvement in the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is encouraged. Parents are also members of the School Improvement Planning Steering Committee.

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