

**McQuerry Elementary Parent Involvement Plan
2017-2018**

The mission of **Mary K. McQuerry Elementary School** is: To create an environment that expects students to maximize their potential in areas of basic skills, problem solving, and self-discipline.

We know that parent involvement in our school can have a dramatic effect on the academic achievement of our students. This plan is developed with the goal of developing a strong partnership with all of our parents so that our children will be provided with the best possible education we can offer.

So that parents will better understand our school's program and how they may become actively involved, we have addressed key areas of concern. Please feel free to discuss any questions, comments, or suggestions you may have about this plan with your child's teacher, Title 1 teacher or the school principal. We welcome your input and suggestions!

Parent Involvement with the McQuerry Elementary School Plan Development

Annually, a committee made up of faculty representatives and parents meet to review and update the **McQuerry Elementary Parent Involvement Plan**. The plan is then made available to parents through this publication (McQuerry Elementary Handbook). It is also placed on the school system website (www.odessa.k12.mo.us), available through the principal's office at each school, or upon request from the central office.

School's Use of Parent Involvement Funds

McQuerry Elementary will use its allocation of parent involvement funds to purchase "Reading Connections" newsletter and to purchase summer reading books for criterion selected families.

Parents' Involvement in How Parent Involvement Funds Will Be Used

As part of **McQuerry Elementary's** meeting held each spring with parents to review and update the School/Parent Compact and Parent Involvement Plan, the allocation of parent involvement funds are discussed. Funds are budgeted and expended based upon the goals and priorities set through that meeting.

Procedures for Parents to Express Concerns Related to the Odessa R-7 School District

Application for NCLB Funds

Title I funds are allocated to each school building based upon the consolidated application submitted to the school system on an annual basis. Parents wishing to make and submit comments should they disagree with any part of the **Odessa R-7 School District** Application for NCLB funds may do so by submitting those concerns in writing to:

Mr. Robert Brinkley, Superintendent
Odessa R-7 School District
701 South 3rd St.
Odessa, MO 64076

Mrs. Abby Volmer, Federal Programs
Odessa R-7 School District
701 South 3rd St.
Odessa, MO 64076

Annual Meeting

McQuerry Elementary will hold its annual meeting for all parents of all children in the fall. Parents are notified of this meeting through: notices sent home with students, newsletters from the principal, postings on the marquee, and our school website. Announcements in other languages are available when we have families where English is not their primary language.

Topics to be discussed at this year's meeting are:

- Title I participation, its services, and parent's rights
- Our school's parent involvement policy
- Our school's parent compacts
- Resources available for parents
- Survey results and needs assessment

Flexible Schedule of Meetings

The leadership and staff of **McQuerry Elementary** have a strong belief in the importance of parental involvement and therefore have put measures in place to offer parent meetings on a flexible schedule. Conferences with teachers are encouraged and may be set up by prior appointment during teachers' planning times and before or after school. Parents may obtain information about their child's academic or social progress through phone calls, notes to the teacher, email, school website, and participation in workshops or other family activities.

Involvement of Parents in Planning, Review, and Improvement of Title I Programs

McQuerry Elementary believes in involving parents in all aspects of its Title I program. We invite parents to actively participate in the development of our Title I plan. Each year, the school wide plan, including the parental involvement plan, is reviewed and evaluated. Results of parent surveys are reviewed by the parent representatives and Title I committee to determine needed changes.

Timely Information About the Title I Program, the Curriculum, and Academic Assessments

At the annual meeting of parents at the beginning of the school year; **McQuerry Elementary** will hold a general meeting where information will be presented about its Title I program informing parents of participation, the parent involvement policy, the parent compact, and available resources.

Submission of Parent Concerns About Our Title Plan

In late March of each year, **McQuerry Elementary** brings in a Title I planning group to review, evaluate, and revise our Parent Involvement Plan. If a parent has concerns with the plan they have the right to submit their concerns in writing to the school. Concerns will be presented to the central office at the same time that the Title I plan is submitted.

School-Parent Compacts

McQuerry Elementary revises its school-parent compact in the spring of each year during our annual Title I Planning group meeting. All parents will receive a copy of the new compact in the **McQuerry Elementary Student/Parent Handbook** at the beginning of each school year. A copy will be maintained on the school website and new students will be given one at the time of enrollment. The compact will be explained to parents, teachers and students. Each will be asked to sign a confirmation sheet signifying their commitment to working in partnership with the school to ensure that children are successful in school. These documents will be housed in the **McQuerry Elementary** office.

Building Teachers' and Parents' Capacity for Strong Parental Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among **McQuerry Elementary**, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, **McQuerry Elementary** staff shall:

- Describe any material and resource support offered to parents to help their children increase their academic achievement and offer counseling services to support parents.
- Describe the training/workshops to be offered to parents: helping their children with homework, use of technology, and various curriculum approaches.
- Describe how continuing professional development for teachers will be implemented toward the goal of furthering their understanding and valuing of the contributions of parents; conferencing techniques; establishing positive relationships with families; how communication between the home and school may be strengthened; teacher involvement in PTO and other family-related activities.
- Describe how concerted efforts such as Parents as Teachers is available for children ages birth to pre-kindergarten to assist in developmental learning.
- Describe how information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a language and format that they can understand. Support for parents in languages other than English will be provided by the compilation and translation of key school informational documents; providing translators to assist with registration, enrollment, and parent conferences; and working with the ELL teacher.
- Describe how the school provides other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

Participation of LEP Parents, Parents with Disabilities, and Parents of Migratory Children

McQuerry Elementary, to the extent practicable, provides opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency and parents with disabilities. We have a bilingual teacher in our district who is available upon appointment to assist in verbal communications with students and parents with limited English proficiency. Individual academic assessments, and the interpretation of those results, will be interpreted for parents in a language they can understand through the assistance of our ELL specialists and translators available through the **Odessa R-7 School District** Board of Education. At this time, **McQuerry** does not have any migrant students. Every effort is made to accommodate parents with disabilities. The **Odessa R-7 School District** policy for homebound is followed as needs exist for homebound services. Parents requiring such assistance should contact the counselor, nurse, or administration for referral forms and assistance with the application process. Homebound services are provided through the central office of the **Odessa R-7 School District**.

Parents' Right-to-Know

Our district is required to inform you of certain information that you, according to "The No Child Left Behind Act" of 2001 (Public Law 107-110), have the right to know. Upon request, our district is required to provide to you in a timely manner, the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and Subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived

- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications
- What baccalaureate degree major the teacher has and any other graduate certification or Degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification. In addition to the information that parents may request, districts must provide to each individual parent
- Information on the achievement level of the parent's child in each of the state academic Assessments as required under this part
- Timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more Consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified