

N.H. Stokes Elementary School



School Parental Involvement Policy

2020-2021

A strong partnership between the school and home is essential if a quality educational program is to be provided to all students. N.H. Stokes Elementary is dedicated to the philosophy that parent involvement is integral to the success of each child.

Parent Involvement means the participation of parents/caregivers in regular, two-way meaningful communication to ensure:

- parents/caregivers play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - parents/caregivers are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - parents/caregivers are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate,
 - in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

We view parents as joint policy and decision makers and plan to emphasize their roles as advocates for children. Parents are encouraged to provide input in making our school the best it can be through yearly review of our policy. If you have any questions, please call our school at (302) 697-3205.

With both school and parent input, the following activities are planned and will be implemented to promote parental involvement and additional support for student learning:

1. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary will incorporate the *School Parent Compact* as a component of its School Parental Involvement Policy. The compact will be disseminated in the Wednesday envelope at the start of each school year and with all registration packets.
2. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary will provide assistance to parents in understanding topics such as the Common Core State Standards, Delaware's Academic Content Standards, Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators through:
 - Open House, Annual Title I Parent Night and other school wide leadership events to provide parents with materials to support their children's learning at home
 - Achievement Liaison Teacher – Dawn Dick is a teacher who serves as a liaison for parent involvement, teacher quality, and student achievement. She can be reached by calling the school or via e-mail at dawn.dick@cr.k12.de.us
3. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:
 - Open House, Annual Title I Parent Night and other school wide educational events to provide parents with materials to support their children's learning at home
 - One School One Book
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences held on district scheduled days and/or made by appointment to meet with teachers to discuss student progress and support
 - School Messenger
 - Other school wide events

4. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary will provide information on roles, volunteer opportunities and activities parents can engage in to increase their involvement and support for learning through the following:

- The Leader In Me
- Mentoring
- Teacher assistance
- Book Fair Helpers
- Library assistant
- Chorus/Band Concerts
- Parent/Child Book Clubs
- Field Day
- Fifth grade awards ceremony
- Parent/Teacher Organization
- Peer Teachers
- Field Trips
- Rider Pride Day
- Student Appreciation Day
- Odyssey of the Mind

5. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the parents in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand through:

- Wednesday Envelopes - sent home each week with student work and school notices
- Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary has a website containing school information as well as teacher links: www.crk12.org/stokes

- Home Access Center is available to parents 24 hours a day to give parents/caregivers access to their student's schedule, attendance, assigned class work and grades. A personal password may be obtained through the school to be used on any computer equipped with internet access. Email links are available throughout the center so parents can communicate easily with teachers and school officials. <http://hac.doe.k12.de.us/homeaccess>
- District Technology Hotline to support families with technology assistance and problem solving.
- Nellie Stokes offers technology support through the technology committee.
- The district calendar and marquee in front of our school will promote parent meetings and seminars
- *School Messenger* allows the school and district to send messages across the phone system. It is the parents'/caregivers' responsibility to keep phone numbers updated with the school's main office
- Student academic progress is communicated regularly through interim reports and report cards
- Parent Conferences offered during day and evening times to accommodate parent work schedules
- Teacher representatives on the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Staff email addresses are linked to school website
- Parent Information Events
- Classroom Newsletters/Websites - Available in multiple languages including Haitian Creole
- Equity and Diversity Committee initiatives to strengthen support of all families and diverse needs
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)

6. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary, with the involvement of parents, will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent involvement policy and School-Parent Compact. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary will use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective involvement and to revise if necessary, its parental involvement policy. This evaluation will be accomplished by:

- Sending home copies of School Parental Involvement Policy and School-Parent Compact for comment
- Inviting parents to serve on the School Success Plan Committee

7. Parents may request a copy of the District Parental Involvement Policy through the school's main office or access the policy via the Caesar Rodney Instruction Division's website at www.crk12.org/domain/4.