

**Virginia Department of Education
Holland Elementary School Family Engagement Policy**

Holland Elementary School jointly developed this family engagement policy in consultation with school personnel, community members, and parents and adopted it on October 21, 2015. It was reviewed and adopted for the current school year by the current members of the committee. A list of committee members responsible for the writing of this policy can be found in Appendix A. Additionally, a list of the committee that reaffirmed the Policy for the 2018-2019 school year can be found on Appendix A. This policy was distributed to parents of participating children and to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. This policy is available to the local community via the school Webpage and distribution through school.

If the Title I plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the local educational agency will submit any parent comments with the application when the plan is submitted to the state. This family engagement plan will be updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Part 1. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

Holland Elementary School will:

- (1) Convene an annual meeting on August 30, 2018 to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved;
- (2) Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan.
- (3) Provide parents of participating children:
 - (A) timely information about Title I programs;
 - (B) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - (C) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible; and
- (4) If the schoolwide program is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational community.

Part 2. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Holland Elementary School, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. Also, the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the state's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during school year 2018-2019.

School Responsibilities

Holland Elementary School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the state's student academic achievement standards as follows:
 - Implement the Virginia Beach City Public Schools curriculum in a safe and supportive environment including appropriate interventions and remediation that enables all children to meet the state's academic achievement standards.
2. Work to develop a home-to-school connection:
 - Establish and maintain effective communication with parents and/or guardians.
 - Conferences will be held on November 6, 2018 as required by VBCPS.
 - Additional conferences may be held when requested by teachers. Additionally, teachers will be available to meet with parents/guardians when requested.
3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:
 - Parents will be provided with the results of their child's performance as directed by Virginia Beach City Public Schools and the state of Virginia. Methods will include report cards, progress reports, calls from teachers, and graded papers sent home. The curriculum can be accessed by all parents on the VBSchools.com website and at the Holland website.
 - Results of assessment devices administered by the division to measure student performance (SOL/IPT) will be provided to parents in writing, including a description of what the data shows. Additionally, classroom assessment data will be presented to parents during parent/teacher conferences. During these conferences, the state and VBCPS standards will be compared with the student's work performance.
 - Hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements, and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a convenient time to parents, and will offer a flexible number of additional family engagement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite to this meeting all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs (participating students), and will encourage them to attend.

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

- Ongoing quality two-way communications between parents and teachers will be provided through the regular use of parent conferences, regular reports from classroom teachers via planners, e-mail, phone calls, digital apps and/or text messaging. A monthly school calendar is sent home showing all events for the month. If special communication needs are identified, every reasonable attempt will be made to direct parents/guardians to the appropriate resources. We have intervention processes, Student Support and Child Study Team, to discuss student progress, intervention, and strengths and weaknesses with parents as needed. Holland Elementary School will utilize intervention and support specialists, and administrators, to support parent conferences as needed.

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:

- Parents are welcome to come into the school and volunteer. Classroom observations can be scheduled with the classroom teacher. The whole school special events sign-in sheet provides parents an opportunity to designate a willingness to volunteer at school.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Play an active role in our child’s education, express high expectations, offer praise and encouragement, read with my child, and help with homework assignments.
- Monitor our child’s attendance, participate in out-of-school activities, and ensure that schoolwork has been completed.
- Participate in family engagement activities as often as possible and request parent-teacher conferences when needed.
- Communicate with school administration and teachers when requested.

Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and meet Virginia’s high standards. Specifically, we will:

- Attend school daily and be ready to learn.
- Complete all class work and homework assignments on time.
- Respect your classmates, teachers, and obey classroom and school rules.
- Be a good messenger between home and school.
- Have a positive attitude every day.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Principal	Teacher	Parent/Guardian	Student
_____	_____	_____	_____
Date	Date	Date	Date

Part 3. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Holland Elementary and Virginia Beach City Public Schools assisted under this part:

- (1) shall provide assistance to parents of children served by Holland Elementary School and Virginia Beach City Public Schools, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments; also monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- (2) shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve individual achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster family engagement;
- (3) shall educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents; and how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;
- (4) shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate family engagement programs and activities with public preschool and other programs; conduct other activities such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;
- (5) shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format that is practicable and in a language that parents can understand;
- (6) may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize family engagement and participation;
- (7) may adopt and implement model approaches to improving family engagement;
- (8) shall provide such other reasonable support for family engagement activities under this section as parents may request.

Part 4. ACCESSIBILITY

Holland Elementary School, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, in a format that is practicable and in a language that parents can understand.

APPENDIX A

Committee members that gave input on the writing of this policy:

Holland Staff

Dr. Callie Richardson

Laura Silverman

Melanie Van Allen

Joyce Lavin

Melissa Isaroon

Leticia Newsome

Debbie Dunn

Parents and Community Members

Carmen Smalls

Melissa Clark

Parents and Community Members that approved this policy for the 2018-2019 school year:

Vanessa Watts

Michelle Burton

Jennifer Nguyen

Chasity Sauro