

**North Dover Elementary School**  
**Dover, New Jersey**  
**973-989-2020**  
**Mr. Patrick Pandolfo, Principal**

**2017-2018 SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

*The North Dover 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 agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and 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 has been developed with available input from all Title I Parents, and reflects the needs and concerns specific to the stakeholders of the North Dover Elementary School.*

*This school-parent compact is in effect during the 2017-2018 academic year, and shall be evaluated on an ongoing basis to insure maximum effectiveness. This compact is part of the school's written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents.*

**School Responsibilities**

**The North Dover 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:**

*North Dover Elementary School will provide an optimum educational experience for all students, creating a passion for learning and encouraging all students to perform to their highest academic potential while promoting self-expression, cooperation, and respect for others. This shall be accomplished via a seamless integration of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) into the district curriculum and infusing the most current pedagogical practices and technology into the fabric of the classroom environment. North Dover Elementary School will provide parents with assistance in understanding the NJSLS and PARCC assessments through a series of parental involvement activities held throughout the course of the year. Through the combined efforts of staff, parents and students, an optimal and productive learning environment will be established through which students will achieve their maximum potential.*

- 2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.**

*During school/grade level orientation programs, Back to School Nights, in our school's Menugrams and in varied home/school communications parents are urged to contact the school office to arrange a meeting with the teacher whenever it is believed that a conference would be necessary or helpful. All staff members, including teachers, administrators, and school nurse are available for conferences with parents when requested. Parent Teacher Conferences are held each year in the fall. At this time parents may choose a day or evening appointment time to discuss their child's academic progress or concerns. If a parent is unable to meet during this time, teachers will*

*reschedule the appointment for a more mutually agreeable time or suggest a phone conference.*

*The North Dover faculty and administrators encourage frequent meetings between parents and teachers, believing that this is the single most effective way to help students achieve their potential. Communication between home and school minimizes students' difficulties and enhances the quality of the education that can result from total mutual understanding.*

- 3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress.** Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

*Pre-K and Kindergarten children receive report cards in January, April and June. Students in grades first through sixth receive report cards in November, January, April and June. In addition, mid-marking period progress reports are sent to parents if deemed necessary by the teacher or if a child is in danger of failing a subject. Also, if the teacher and parent feel that a weekly progress report would be helpful to ensure academic success, one will be sent home each week.*

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

*If a parent would like to speak with a specific staff member, teachers are available for consultation before and after school or during a teacher's prep period at mutually agreeable times. In addition, parents may choose to contact a staff member by email or telephone to discuss their concerns. All teachers and administrators are linked to the North Dover School homepage for easy parent access. North Dover School's telephone number, as well as the email address of the principal and vice principal, is cited on all communications sent home from the school such as weekly Menugrams and school letters/notifications.*

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

*During American Education Week each year parents may visit their child's classroom for an extended period of time to observe lessons across the curriculum. During Read Across America Week parents can volunteer to read to elementary classes during the day and attend the annual Dr. Seuss's Birthday celebration during this same week. In addition, various grade levels have extended invitations to parents to observe student presentations, assist in arts and craft projects, or to visit the classroom as a guest lecturer to inform the students about their respective careers or present a special program. Also, throughout the year in addition to the school concerts, parents may attend short morning programs based upon seasonal or academic units of study as well as honor roll and award assemblies. Parents may also attend after-school academic based programs such as the Family Literacy and/or Math Nights, or other cross-curricular thematic programs for families.*

- 6. Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parental involvement policy, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.**
- 7. Involve parents in the joint development of any school-wide program plan, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.**

8. 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 parental involvement 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.
9. Provide information to parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon the request of parents with disabilities, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.
10. On the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions, and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
11. Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading.

### **Parent Responsibilities**

#### **I will support my child's learning in the following ways:**

- *Ensuring that my child is at school on time every day.*
- *Encouraging a positive attitude about school.*
- *Adhering to school rules and encouraging students to follow the Code of Student Conduct.*
- *Collaborating with the classroom teacher(s) to ensure the success of students.*
- *Letting the teachers know if my child has any problems with learning.*
- *Monitoring students' homework and providing a study area and necessary materials.*
- *Making sure that homework is completed by cross-checking assignments on the school website.*
- *Reading to my child at least 20 minutes per day in grades kindergarten through grade two, and encouraging at least 20 minutes per day of independent reading in grades three through sixth.*
- *Attending parent conferences.*
- *I will volunteer in my child's classroom, if possible, for at least one event per year.*
- *I will participate as appropriate in decisions relating to my children's education.*
- *Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.*

- *I will stay informed about my child's education and communicate with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.*
- *I will serve, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being a parent representative on the school's Title I Parent Advisory Council.*

### **Student Responsibilities**

As a student, I will share the responsibility to improve my academic achievement/progress and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, I will:

- *Follow the district's Code of Student Conduct.*
- *Be an active participant in my own learning.*
- *Work diligently at home and school.*
- *Come to school well rested and prepared to learn.*
- *Attend school regularly and arrive at school on time each day.*
- *Write down assignments in my student agenda book and will turn in all projects on time.*
- *Do my homework every day and ask my teacher for help when I need to.*
- *Read at least 20 minutes every day outside of school time.*
- *Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day, including weekly Menu-grams.*