Standard 1: Communication

*Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful

To encourage communication Elm Tree will:

1. Prepare informational packets to be sent home via Tuesday folders
   a. Parent Handbook
   b. Parental Involvement Plan/Brochure
      • Recommended role of the parent, student, teacher, and school
      • Ways for parents to become involved in their child’s education (PTO, Virtual Volunteer Opportunities)
      • Parental Involvement Contacts
   c. Activities planned throughout the year to encourage parental involvement;
      K-Orientation
      Part 1 - virtual 8/25/20
      Part 2 - families meet with teachers via an appointment 8/26/20
      Virtual Open House 8/2020
      Back to School Night 9/2020
      Kindergarten/Fourth Grade Graduation 5/27/21
      Fourth Grade Final Walk 5/28/28
      Rise & Shine (virtual)
   d. System of communication between school and home (Parent/Teacher Conferences, Tuesday Folders, On-line Calendar, email, Google Hangout, weekly newsletters, school website, Facebook, phone, PBIS Rewards positive behavior tracking app, agenda planners, etc.)

2. Encourage communication with parents by scheduling no less than 2 parent/teacher conferences per school year. Fall--10/2020, Spring--4/2021

3. Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to encourage communication with parents.
   a. Provide information about skills assessments, report card grading system, and interpretation of computerized testing.
   b. Wildcat Weekly Newsletter, teacher emails, Google Hangouts, class newsletters, webpage, Gold Calendar, Facebook, school wide email distribution list.
   c. Tuesday folders are sent home weekly and information is updated weekly on the website.
   d. Notify families when students are receiving awards or special recognition (Rise & Shine).
   e. Contact families regarding academic or behavior problems as well as positive student behavior and achievement- PBIS Rewards app
   f. Disseminate information clearly and specifically by using language that is understandable to all parents in a multi-method approach.
   g. Translate communications to assist non-English speaking parents as much as feasible.
Standard 2: Parenting
*Parenting Skills are promoted and supported

To promote responsible parenting Elm Tree will:
1. Purchase parenting books and magazines as funds are available and advertise selections in newsletters. Create a parent center located in the library with items available for check-out.
2. Plan and engage in other activities determined by the school to be beneficial to promoting and supporting responsible parenting, such as:
   a. Newsletters sent home per classroom and school
   Monthly “Core Essential” Parent Phase Letters sent home in Tuesday Folders
   b. School website links to resources (education/parenting)
   c. Provide families with information on child and adolescent development;
   Virtual Always Changing Night for 3rd & 4th grade girls & moms- Spring 2021
   d. Communicate with parents in an ongoing manner, using diverse methods all of which reflect a respect for parental and cultural differences.
   e. Inform parents of other opportunities to attend parenting training.

Standard 3: Student Learning
*Parents will play an integral role in assisting student achievement.

To promote student learning Elm Tree will:
1. Schedule regular Parent Involvement Meetings where parents are given a report on;
   K-Orientation (Virtual) and Open House (Virtual) 8/2020
   Back to School Night (Virtual) 9/2020
   Parent/Teacher Conferences Fall—(Virtual) Fall-10/2020 Spring 4/2021
   a. What students will be learning; teachers will inform parents of student expectations in each grade level, how they can assist them in homework and foster learning at home. (Back to School Night)
   b. How students will be assessed; teachers will inform parents of assessments both computerized and paper/pencil and will create an understanding of the standardized testing process. (teacher and school newsletters, conferences)
   c. What a parent should expect for his or her child’s education; distribute information to assist parents in understanding how students can improve skills, get help when needed, and meet class expectations (teacher and school newsletters, access to websites, conferences)
   d. How a parent can assist and make a difference in his or her child’s education (teacher and school newsletters)
2. Provide instruction to parents on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment.
   a. Role play and demonstration by trained volunteers (BeSeen Parent Group/Beyond Hard Places Parenting Classes)
   b. Use of and access to departments website tools for parents
   c. Assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation (Aramark)
d. Other strategies or curricula acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction (Bentonville Public Library programs)

3. Engage in other activities determined by the school to help a parent assist in his or her child’s learning.

Standard 4: Volunteering

*Parents are encouraged to be involved at Elm Tree. Social distancing will prohibit in-person volunteering in the school building. However, every effort will be made by teachers and staff to make parents a valuable partner in their students learning and creating innovative ways to incorporate parental involvement/volunteering.

Standard 5: School Decision Making and Advocacy

*Recognize that a parent is a full partner in the decisions that affect his/her child and family.

To encourage a parent to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, Elm Tree will:

1. Include in the school’s policy handbook the school’s process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.
2. Engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage a parent to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.

Standard 6: Collaborating with the Community

*Investigate and utilize community resources in the instructional program of the school.

To take advantage of community resources, Elm Tree will;

1. Consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an alumni advisory commission to provide advice and guidance for school improvement.
2. Enable the formation of the PTO that will foster parental and community involvement within the school.
   a. Leaders of the PTO will be used in appropriate decisions affecting the children and families of our school.
3. Engage in other activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning. (Bright Futures, Elm Tree Gives Back, Sharing and Caring, Snack Pack Program, Sheriff’s Department Mentors, Girls on the Run, J.A. in a Day, Altrusa, Carroll Electric.)
ETE Student responsibilities are:
• To attend school every day and be on time to all classes
• To come to school prepared with books, paper, pencil, and any materials and assignments as directed by teachers
• To obey the directions of all ETE staff members and treat them with respect
• To maintain a positive attitude toward learning and believe in my ability to succeed
• To respect myself and the rights and property of others
• Do homework daily and ask for help when needed
• Read daily outside of school time
• Give parent/guardians all notices and information from the school daily or in Tuesday folder

ETE Parent responsibilities are:
• To send my child to school each day on time, prepared with all necessary materials, well rested, and properly dressed
• To check my child’s work and homework on a regular basis
• Monitor attendance
• Volunteer at school
• To provide my child with suitable study conditions at home (desk or table, lights, books, and supplies)
• To communicate with my child’s teachers when I am concerned about my child’s work or health
• To send an email, doctor’s excuse, or a note from home for my child’s absence

ETE Staff responsibilities are:
• To provide a quality instructional program in an integrated setting for each student
• To provide a safe school environment
• To develop programs and activities which will respond to the social, emotional, personal, and physical developmental needs of each student
• To assist parents in helping their children develop good character traits necessary to participate in school as a responsible member

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