



Parent and Family
Engagement Plan
M.J. Christensen Elementary School
2016-2017

This plan has been jointly developed and agreed upon by the M.J. Christensen Elementary School staff and parents of students served in the school pursuant to Title I. M.J. Christensen Elementary School will convene an annual meeting at a convenient time for parents to evaluate this plan. This meeting will be held in September of 2016. The school's parent and family engagement policy, developed by M.J. Christensen Elementary School and its parents, will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. The parent and family engagement policy will also be made available to the community.

M.J. Christensen Elementary School will involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, school performance plan, and parent involvement plan. Parents have the opportunity to attend the Title I parent meeting at the beginning of the school year as well as additional meetings to review the Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the school performance plan.

The Educational Involvement Accords are integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents must review Accords prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the Accords whenever needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions. The District Wide Parent Survey results for the Pledge of Achievement Goals 4 and 5 are as follows; 88%-Engagement, 93%-Happy with School, and 93% Student Safety. These results are shared and reviewed with parents at Open House.

Administration and staff will provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor their student's academic progress, and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of the student. Staff will ensure parents understand student progress toward meeting the NVACS and data as a result of various assessments administered such as AIMSweb, Acuity, DRA, SBAC, and CRT. Preschool teachers have monthly parent trainings scheduled throughout the year. Kindergarten through fifth grade and special education teachers will offer parent trainings throughout the year based on parent input and needs. The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will provide parent trainings throughout the school year.

Administration and staff will provide high-quality tier I instruction utilizing the literacy framework, Number Talks, Kagan Structures, academic conversations, and enrichment and intervention opportunities in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling students to meet the state academic standards. Instruction is based on the Nevada Academic Content Standards.

Administration will offer parent involvement activities in the school that will include opportunities for parents to volunteer and be involved in the school activities. Parent training will be provided to assist

parents in supporting their children's education at home. Parents are encouraged to participate in school decision-making through PTA (Parent Teacher Association) and School Performance Plan team. Communication between the school and parents will be provided through newsletters, ParentLink and school website.

Administration and staff will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve the student's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. Topics for parent trainings will include, Sight Word Soldiers, fluency, SBAC, Number Talks, and Imagine Learning. M.J. Christensen Elementary School will provide access to and inform parents of educational resources to use together with their children such as starfall.com, ABCya.com, funbrain.com, coolmath4kids.com, learnzillion.com, kids.nationalgeographic.com, interactivesites.weebly.com. The school counselor will provide parents access to family resources by working with families individually and through parent meetings based on their needs. The counselor will also provide classroom lessons focused on life skills and anti-bullying as well as work with families to reinforce concepts taught. Staff will guide families in monitoring, assisting, and interacting with their own children at home on learning activities that are coordinated with class work and that contribute to success in school. Family academic nights and student performances held in the winter and spring encourage parents to visit the school and participate in school activities.

With regard to professional development, the administration will collaborate with parents, teachers, and staff on professional development. Parents and other personnel will be encouraged to voice their opinions, which will then drive the need for particular staff training. Professional development will include, but is not limited to:

- Student assessments (SBAC, Acuity)
- High quality literacy instruction
- The Nevada Educator Performance Framework
- Student Safety (MJ Anchors for Success, school-wide houses)

The administration and staff will ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meeting and other activities is sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parent can understand. Information will be sent to parents through the school newsletter, ParentLink and the school website.

The administration will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Middle School Transition Meetings, Pre-kindergarten, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. Parents are encouraged to be active in the PTA.

The administration and staff will provide reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents may request, (i.e. scheduling meeting at various times to meet the needs of parents, parent comment or suggestion sheets).