

Garfield Elementary School, Clovis Unified School District 2024 – 2025 Parental Involvement Policy

At Garfield Elementary School, we recognize that parental involvement is a critical dimension of effective schooling. The school and the home cannot be looked at in isolation from one another; families and schools need to collaborate to help children adjust to the responsibilities of being successful students. Research has shown that parental involvement contributes greatly to student achievement and conduct. The Clovis Unified School District's Parent Involvement policy is outlined in CUSD Board Policy #6020. Each CUSD School creates a School Parent Involvement Policy in collaboration with the different parent groups and committees that is tailored to the needs of their school and learning community.

The staff at Garfield Elementary School, believes that we should help parents develop skills to meet the basic obligations of family life and foster conditions at home which emphasize the importance of education and learning. Two-way communication about school programs and students' progress is promoted due to the belief that education is a responsibility shared with parents. Parents are also invited to actively participate in school decision-making and to develop their leadership skills in governance and advocacy. By joining the school councils and advisory committees, the parents are able to be involved in the planning, review, and improvement.

Through conferences and letters, parents are provided with timely information about curriculum, assessments, and expected proficiency levels for student achievement. Parents are invited to attend appropriate training opportunities to help the school and the students reach stated goals, objectives, and standards. This will ensure that the school remains focused on our primary responsibility to provide a high-quality curriculum and instructional program in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables all students to meet academic expectations set forth in the California State Standards. At Garfield Elementary School, we believe that the parents have the responsibility and opportunity to work with the school in a mutually supportive and respectful partnership with the goal of helping their children succeed in school. We are committed to increasing parental involvement, which will ultimately improve student achievement.

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Clovis Unified School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements that are outlined in CUSD Board Policy #6020 and which are in compliance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) sections 1116(b) and (c).

- The school will jointly develop with parents, distribute to parents of participating children, a School Parental Involvement Policy that the school and parents of participating children agree on.

- The school will notify parents about the School Parental Involvement Policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, will distribute this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand.
- The school will make the School Parental Involvement Policy available to the local community.
- The school will periodically update the School Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- The school agrees to be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means open communication with parents in order to establish a high-quality school program and academic achievement, including ensuring--

- (A) that parents plan an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- (C) that parents 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;
- (D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II: DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Garfield Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development and joint agreement of its School Parental Involvement Policy and its school wide plan, if applicable, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way under section 1118(b) of the ESEA:

- Continue parent/school committees such as School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Committee, Parent Teacher Club/Foundation, School Assessment and Review Team, and Intercultural Diversity Advisory Committee (IDAC).
- Revise the School-Parent Compact found in the student handbook.
- Continue to send out notices from the school in a variety of languages as applicable to our community.
- Continue our parent involvement activities including, but not limited to Back to School Night, Book Fair, School Carnival, Open House, Winter Program, Spring Concerts, Awards events, etc..

Garfield Elementary School will take the following actions to distribute to parents of participating children and the local community, the School Parental involvement Policy:

- Send home notices/agendas to the parents of the School Site council (SSC) meeting both in advance of the meeting. The agenda will state clearly that the School Parental Involvement Policy will be discussed and reviewed.
- School Parental Involvement Policy will be discussed and reviewed during SART.

Garfield Elementary School will annually review and update its School Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

- The district and school site will annually review the School Parent Involvement Policy for any issues to include, but not limited to, restructuring the school, safety needs, and any program needs.

Garfield Elementary School will provide to parents 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 at beginning of the year SART meetings held by the school site principal or designee.

Parents have a chance to review the on-going progress of the school throughout the year at SSC, ELAC, and SART meetings. Those who feel that the school-wide plan is not being implemented to their satisfaction should contact the Area Superintendent for their area with their concerns.

PART III: SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Garfield Elementary School will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

Garfield Elementary School will, with the assistance of its district, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school.

- The State's academic content standards,
- The State's student academic achievements standards,
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators:
- The Adult School offers classes on campus for any second language adults to learn English.

Garfield Elementary School will, with the assistance of its district, 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, through:

- School Site Council (SSC) member training on the roles and responsibilities of council members.
- English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) member training on the roles and responsibilities of committee members.
- Parents are provided with materials and training through numerous committees and parent groups.

- The district provides regular parent training throughout the year on a variety of parent-driven topics.

Garfield Elementary School will, with the assistance of its district and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

Garfield Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- School programs, activities, meetings, and policies are communicated to parents through Weekly school calendars and school communication flyers are sent home in English and Spanish when appropriate.
- In addition to school-wide publications, the staff works to inform and refine communication through classroom newsletters, parent letters, and numerous parent contacts both by telephone and in person.
- Progress reports are sent home to parents in order to help address student needs before final quarter/semester grades are posted.
- Our Bilingual Instructional Assistants make personal phone calls to inform parents of student progress, expectations, Gateway offers after-school programs and also to invite families to attend special events.

PART IV: DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Garfield Elementary School and Clovis Unified School District is committed, where practical and to the extent that the District resources provides, to the following:

- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establishing a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and

- Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

**PART IV:
ADOPTION**

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in programs, as evidenced by Garfield Elementary School's 4th quarter School Site Council Meeting. This policy will also be available on our website at: Garfield Elementary


Principal, Jennifer Bump


GIS, Mario Alvarez


SSC Chairperson, Heidi Nenadov

