# District 2172
# Kenyon Wanamingo Schools
# Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Kenyon Wanamingo Elementary School receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement plan that contains information required by Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities. It is also incorporated into the LEA's Title I plan submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education.

## ***Kenyon Wanamingo District Mission Statement:***

*The mission of Kenyon Wanamingo Schools is to create a caring partnership among students, family, and community to maximize each learner's academic, physical, and social development.*

## ***Vision***

*Our vision is to prepare life-long learners and responsible citizens.*

## ***Kenyon Wanamingo Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116 of the ESSA:***

The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members at KWES with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.

- Consistent with Section 1116, the school district will work with KWES to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116 of the ESSA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, KWES will provide opportunities for the full participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format in a language parents understand.
- KWES will use the following definition of parental involvement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

(A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
(B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
(C) Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making to assist in the education of their child

## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

### A. ***Parent and Family Involvement:***

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL involves parents in the development and revision of our school's parent involvement plan. We seek parental input during our annual fall meeting for Title I parents, through parent surveys conducted during spring conferences and in the goal setting each parent/teacher/student team engages in during fall and spring conferences. Each member of the goal setting team identifies and commits to an action they will take as part of achieving grade level benchmarks for their child. Kenyon Wanamingo Elementary commits funding to support family nights, parental involvement and other flexible services related to parental involvement.

The Parent Involvement Plan and School-Parent Compact are presented to parents by the principal/Title I coordinator in the fall of the year during the Title I Parent Meetings. The Title I Parent Meeting is offered at two separate times during the fall conference period and aligns with conference evenings to best accommodate parent schedules. The aim of multiple meeting times is to increase parent participation in attending the annual gathering. KWES designates funds to purchase Parent/Student Communication Folders to promote communication between home and school. Customized information about school calendar, academic and behavior expectation are included to help inform parents of school expectations and how they can support their child's achievement. An overview of the Title I program is presented to parents, including identification criteria, intervention plans, exit criteria and parent involvement. Parents give input about the plan and have an opportunity to ask questions they have about their role in supporting the work of the school and their child. The annual Title I Meeting occurs during fall conferences to streamline school visits for parents. It is hosted by the Title I Coordinator/Principal and Title I intervention specialists. The Title I Parent Involvement Plan is reviewed and survey results from the previous year are used to determine effectiveness and make changes.

### B/C. ***Coordination and Integration:***

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will provide the coordination, technical assistance and communication to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of the school under section 1112 and the process of the school review and improvement under section 1116.

KWES will hold its annual meeting for parents of participating children during fall conferences. Parents are notified of the meeting through notices sent home by students, newsletters from the principal, school website, and notes in native languages to families for whom English is not the primary language. Translation is also available to families for whom English is not their native language. Topics to be discussed at the annual meeting are:

- Title I Programming, its services, and parent's rights
- Participation in a Title I Advisory Committee / Invitation to join the Advisory Committee
- Explanation of the school's curriculum and Title I targeted interventions
- Assessments used to measure students' progress
- Assessment calendar
- Parent involvement policy
- Parent-school-student compact
- Strategies and suggestions for working with the teacher of their child(ren) to support academic progress
- Research based strategies and activities for parents to improve student performance. Resources are given to parents of participating students.
- Parent Resource library that promotes literacy, parental development and effective communication with educators.

## *D/E. Annual Evaluation and Revision:*

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual review of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan in improving the academic quality of its Title I, program. The review will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The review will also include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers, and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. KWES will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement plan to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and if necessary, revise its parent and family engagement policies.

- KWES jointly develops with Title I parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement. We are invested in building a strong partnership with parents so all members of the student's home/school team are working to strengthen academic achievement.
    - KWES revises it school-parent compact in November of each year in consultation with Title I parents at our Title I Parent Meeting. All parents are given a copy of the compact through open house enrollment packets and it is explained during Get-Acquainted Conferences the first week of school. Parents are asked to sign and return the compact, signifying their agreement to work with the school to ensure success for their child. Students also attend the Get-Acquainted conferences and are asked to sign the compact as well.
    - Title I parents are surveyed for feedback about Title I programming, school communication and support offered for their involvement in their child's education.

Survey results are shared with staff and used by the advisory committee to make changes and improve the schools' Parent Engagement Plan.

- Get Acquainted Conferences are conducted the first two days of the school year. Teachers, students and parents meet to establish a relationship and review grade level academic and behavior expectations. This is an opportunity for parents to communicate special needs or goals they have for their child.
- Translation is available to Spanish-speaking and Deaf, Hard of Hearing families during the Title I meeting and also during all parent-teacher conferences. Title I and school communication is translated in the native language of the family to the highest extent possible.
- Teachers and parents have access to immediate translation via telephone and help with written translation with advance notice through the district membership with the Goodhue County Education District.
- Academic progress is reported four times each year, including Title I updates from the targeted intervention being used.

## *F. Parent involvement in the activities of the school:*

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL develops with Title I parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement. We are invested in building a strong partnership with parents so all members of the student's home/school team are working to strengthen academic achievement.

- Get Acquainted Conferences are conducted the first two days of the school year. Teachers present and explain state academic standards to parents and students during this conference.
- Parents/students and teachers engage in academic goal setting for core content areas of reading and math during fall and spring conferences. Each member of the goal setting team identifies and commits to an action they will take as part of achieving grade level benchmarks for their child.
- Family Fun/Parent Education nights scheduled several times each year to provide education and fun for families centered on core content areas of literacy and math.
- Academic progress is reported four times each year through the use of a standards-based report card and a standards-based conference report.
- KWES is a member of the community organization 'KW Community CARES' which aims to align community resources to support youth and families. Membership includes participation in the Community Fair hosted the first day of school, aligning social emotional strategies to share with community organizations and facilitating access to free resources and/or scholarships for families. The organization has been part of helping create a "Volunteer Corps" at the elementary school and a Mentor Program at the Middle School of parents and community members available to regularly volunteer.
- State and local assessment results, such as MCA data, FastBridge Reading and Math data for comprehension and fluency are explained to parents at conferences twice each year. MCA data is sent home prior to conferences and teachers review the results during the fall reporting conference.

- A Title I meeting is held during the November conference period to explain the entrance and exit criteria of Title I, what targeted interventions are used, what grade level expectations are for Title I students and what parents can do at home to support their learning.
- The development of a "Volunteer Corps" of parents and community members who are invited to regularly volunteer in classroom to support academic work at each grade level.
- A Lending Library is available to Title I parents in partnership with our Early Childhood and Preschool programs. Resources include effective parenting strategies and strategies for partnering with school to improve their child's progress.
- KWES partners with Goodhue County Health and Human Services to offer a free flu clinic at both of our school sites during the scheduled fall parent/teacher conference evenings.
- Regular classroom and principal newsletters are used to communicate what curriculum is used in classrooms and how parents can support the academic standards at home.
- Targeted Services programming such as Knight Time and Jump Start Knight Time for Kindergarten-6$^{th}$ grade students help students reach grade level benchmarks and increase academic success during both the school year and the summer.
- Kindergarten Round-up, Mini-Kindergarten and 4$^{th}$ Grade transitional meetings help parents and students with the transition to the next level of education and support parents in fully participating in the education of their children.
- Support for parents in languages other than English is provided by the compilation and translation of key school informational documents; providing translators to assist with registration, enrollment, and parent conferences; and working with the EL department and bilingual staff members and administration to ensure effective communication with all stakeholders.

## BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will take the following steps to ensure there is effective involvement of parents and to help develop a strong partnership between home and school focused on student achievement:

a. Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and literacy and math activities aimed at increasing parent capacity and understanding of academic standards.
b. Maximizing parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting phone conferences between teachers and parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school.
c. Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement.
d. Establishing a system for seeking and using feedback from parents about Title I services and other school programs focused on academic achievement.
e. Participating in community-based organizations that support parents, families and youth.

### *A. Building Capacity of School Staff*

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and schools by:

- Trainings to assist staff in working with parents as equal partners in the education process.
- Regular communication between home and school via communication folders, email, phone calls and school newsletters.
- Parent/Teacher/Student Goal setting opportunities during fall conferences. Progress toward goals is tracked and reported quarterly to students and families. Progress is recognized during all-school assemblies and parents are invited to attend.
- Volunteer opportunities on both a regular basis and during special events during the school year. Staff are trained on how to incorporate volunteers in a meaningful way that supports achievement.

## *B. Adoption*

The Parent and Family Engagement Plan was developed by Kenyon Wanamingo Elementary School and will be in effect for the 2024-25 school year. The school will distribute this Parent Involvement Plan to all parents of participating Title I students and make it available to the community on or before November 1st, 2024. The annual review took place on November 7th, 2024. At Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools, community engagement has been a critical component of supporting Title I initiatives. Engagement efforts are documented through multiple formal and informal channels to ensure alignment with student and family needs.

1. Family Surveys:
    - Annual surveys are conducted to gather input on student needs, Title I programming, and opportunities for improvement.
    - Results are analyzed and shared with stakeholders, with response data documented for reporting purposes.
2. Parent-Teacher Conferences and Events:
    - Engagement events, such as curriculum nights and parent-teacher conferences, are logged with attendance records.
    - Agendas and post-event reflections are used to track family participation and identify areas for increased engagement.
3. Communication Platforms:
    - Communication with families is documented through newsletters, social media updates, and school websites.
    - Translation services and other supports are provided to ensure equitable access for all families.
4. Community Partnerships:
    - Partnerships with local organizations, including businesses and early learning providers, are documented through formal agreements, collaboration logs, and project outcomes.

*Beth Giese*

Title I Coordinator/Superintendent/K-4 Principal

# Parent/School Compact

KENYON WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL and the parents of the students participating in activities, services and programs funded by Title I agree that this compact outlines how they will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and the 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 the 2023-24 school year.

# Parent/School Compact

**School:** Kenyon-Wanamingo Elementary School

**Student's Name:** **Grade:** **Date:**
**Teacher:**

We, the Kenyon Wanamingo School community, establish this compact in order to foster the core values of honesty, integrity, respect, trust, and responsibility and to support the success of KW students.

**As a parent/caregiver, I pledge to:**

- Maintain and foster high standards of academic achievement and positive behavior.
- Find out how my child is doing by attending conferences, looking at my child's schoolwork, or calling the school.
- Spend time each day with my child reading, writing, listening, or just talking.
- Respect, love, and encourage my child's growth and ideas.
- Help my child to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

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Parent/caregiver signature

**As a KW School staff member, I pledge to:**

- Maintain and foster high standards of academic achievement and positive behavior.
- Respectfully and accurately inform parents of their child's progress during four reporting periods throughout the school year.
- Have high expectations for myself, students, and other staff.
- Respect the cultural differences of students, their families, and other staff.
- Help children to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

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Staff signature

**As a KW School student, I pledge to:**

- Work hard to do my best in class and complete my homework.
- Discuss with my parents what I am learning in school.
- Have a positive attitude towards self, others, school, and learning.
- Respect the cultural differences of other students, their families, and staff.
- Work to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

_____
Student signature

The compact is *revisited annually* with families, students, teachers, and other school staff during the annual Title I meeting in the fall. Input is gathered and added to the compact following the yearly meeting.