



2020-2021
PARENT and FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY
ABRAHAM LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4310 New York Avenue, La Crescenta, California 91214
(818) 249-1863 ♦ Fax (818) 249-7876
Barbara Fariss, Principal



The Glendale Unified School District Board of Education recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall consult with parents/guardians and family members in the development of meaningful opportunities at all grade levels for them to be involved in District and school activities at all grade levels; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home. Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so. The District's local control and accountability plan shall include goals and strategies for parent/guardian involvement, including District efforts to seek parent/guardian input in District and school site decision making and to promote parent/guardian participation in programs for English learners, foster youth, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and students with disabilities. (Education Code 42238.02, 52060) The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate and report to the Board on the effectiveness of the District's parent and family engagement efforts, including, but not limited to, input from parents/guardians, family members, and school staff on the adequacy of involvement opportunities and barriers that may inhibit participation. (GUSD Board Policy 6020)

Purpose of Parent Involvement

Lincoln Elementary School is committed to the goal of providing a quality education for every student. Our staff greatly appreciates all of the enthusiastic involvement in your child's education. Your support makes a difference in your child's success. Parent involvement research indicates that when schools create parent partnerships, student learning is better supported and higher student achievement is attained. Students whose parents are part of their school-life earn better grades, have higher test scores, attend school more regularly, exhibit better social skills, and adapt better to school. Parent participation such as actively monitoring a child's unstructured time, helping with homework, and discussing school matters, creates students who are more likely to go on to post-secondary education - even to better schools! Moreover, a child-parent bond that encourages learning is more important to student achievement than income, education level, or cultural background. To this end, we work to establish partnerships with parents and the community to encourage greater involvement and to promote high achievement by all students.

Lincoln's School Site Council (SSC) is responsible for reviewing and updating the Lincoln Parent Involvement Policy. This policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of Lincoln students, parents, and the school.

Home-School Compact Commitment

Lincoln Elementary School must share with parents the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. At Lincoln, this joint venture is exemplified through a home-school compact titled "Lincoln's Educational Home-School Commitment". This commitment is sent home to parents at the beginning of the year and describes (1) the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive learning environment; (2) the parents' responsibility to partner with the school to support student learning; and (3) the students' responsibility to come to school ready to learn. Teachers and students discuss the commitment before signing it, and then it is sent to parents to read, sign and return. All original commitments are filed in the Teacher Specialist's office and may be reviewed by teachers, students, and parents throughout the year, as deemed necessary. The SSC will evaluate the content of the Home-School Commitment each year and suggest modifications to enhance its value in establishing a team approach to education.

Building Parents' Capacity for Involvement

In order for the parents to fulfill their responsibility, we at Lincoln Elementary will assist in building our parents' capacity for involvement by:

- Providing assistance to parents in understanding such topics as the State Standards and related assessments and reports
- Promoting clear two-way communication between the school and the family as to school programs and children's progress
- Providing opportunities for regular meetings where parents can provide input in decisions relating to the education of their children, and responding promptly to parent suggestions
- Providing access to and coordinating community and support services for children and families
- Convening English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting(s) to inform parents of English Language Learners of programs and support available for English language learners
- Supporting the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) and all parent groups and school organizations
- Providing parents with information designed to assist children in learning at home and school
- Involving parents, after appropriate training, in instructional and support roles at the school
- Supporting parents as decision makers and incorporating their leadership, governance, advisory, and advocacy roles in their child's education.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements, the school shall provide full opportunities and encourage the participation of all parents, including those with limited English proficiency and/or disabilities. This includes providing information and school reports in a format/language parents understand (to the extent available). Lincoln complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and parents will not be denied access or participation in school programs or activities due to a disability. Parents may request reasonable accommodations in advance.

How to Get Involved

There are many ways to be involved in your children's education both academically and through volunteer organizations such as PTA, Foundation, Armenian Parents, Korean Parents, 6th Grade Committee and Dad's Club. Parents are welcome and encouraged to run for positions on school advisory councils such as the SSC and ELAC. Parents do not have to be active members of any organization in order to volunteer or attend meetings; participation is welcomed and appreciated by all organizations. For more information on these organizations and specific contact information, please see the Lincoln website under "For Families" and "Contacts" at <https://www.gusd.net/lincoln>

Parents can take an active role in their child's academic success by utilizing several online curriculum portals that monitor progress and areas of need, as well as exclusive web-based educational resources available through Lincoln. Lincoln utilizes online curriculum resources that measure progress which include iReady, Benchmark Universe, and enVision Math. Teachers may also utilize supplemental online resources such as Accelerated Reader (AR), Google Classroom, and BrainPop. Please contact individual classroom teachers for more information. All parents are encouraged to download the GUSD App where they can stream school and district news, receive instant notifications and submit online tips. Please go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "Glendale USD". Additional App features include district contacts, elementary lunch menus, and Q ParentConnection. Q ParentConnection is GUSD's web portal designed to give parents/guardians more access to their students' education information - schedule, grades, attendance, transcript, behavior, etc. Using a confidential Personal Identification Number (PIN) and Password, parents/guardians can connect to the school's database to view/update their child's Emergency Contact Information. For login information, please contact the Lincoln Office. As part of the district's effort to be more environmentally friendly and reduce the number of flyers sent home in the Thursday Folder, GUSD has partnered with an electronic

flyer communication tool called "Peachjar." Peachjar allows parents and families to access flyers in three easy ways – online, by email, and in our GUSD app. All school and district flyers are housed online in an "electronic backpack" where they can be filtered, sorted, and saved.

*****All parents who regularly volunteer on campus must file proof of TB clearance with the health clerk in the office. Low cost TB testing is available through the Glendale Health Center.***

For more information, please call (818) 500-5762.

(Parents who volunteer at Lincoln are kindly asked to follow the dress code set forth for students on campus. It is very important to set an example for students in terms of appropriate clothing in a "work" environment.)