July, 2018

Dear Parents,

Attached to this letter you will find the Board of Education policy on parent involvement in Title I programs. Because the district receives funding under the federal Title I statute, we are required to provide this information to you annually. In addition to the policy, you will find a letter explaining your right to know the qualifications of the teachers working with Title I funds. Please read through this information and contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ryanne Bigelli
Hello,

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was passed by the U.S. Congress late last year and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The ESSA replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and is the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Although NCLB was designed to make changes in teaching and learning in order to increase students’ academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under NCLB was eliminated from the ESSA. Despite this fact, all educators in New Jersey still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the ESSA, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child’s teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Harmony Township School District. All our regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child’s education and communicate with your child’s teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on ESSA, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education’s (USDE) website at http://www.ed.gov/essa.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ryanne Bigelli
Principal
SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

The Harmony Township School, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and 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 school year 2018-2019.

REQUIRED SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT PROVISIONS
(provisions bolded in this section are required to be in the Title I, Part A school-parent compact)

School Responsibilities

The Harmony Township School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

   This will be accomplished through the use of differentiated instruction. We will use all appropriate assessments to determine the specific needs of the students and will implement programs appropriate to those needs.

2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:

   Annually during November Conference times.

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

   Reports will be given with the quarterly report cards/mid-marking period progress reports through feedback to the general classroom teacher.

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

   Parents have daily access to staff through email and the phone system. All reasonable conference requests will be honored and all attempts will be made to accommodate parent schedules.
5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:

Parents may observe classrooms at any time with prior notice to the school office. This requirement is in place in order to ensure the confidentiality of student information. Daily opportunities are available for parents to volunteer in the classrooms and school.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Monitoring amount of television their children watch.
- Volunteering in my child’s classroom.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children’s education.
- Promoting positive use of my child’s extracurricular time.
- Staying informed about my child’s education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school’s School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State’s Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.

_________________________  ______________________  ______________________
School                      Parent(s)                  Student

_________________________  ______________________  ______________________
Date                        Date                        Date

(Please note that signatures are not required)