James P.B. Duffy School #12

Parent Involvement Plan

2012-13

Vision: Parents are their children’s first and most important teachers. Research tells us that parent involvement makes a big difference. When school welcome families, establish personal relationships among families and staff, help parents understand how the system works, and encourage family-staff collaboration to improve student achievement, students do better in school- and the schools get better.

Our school is committed to being family-friendly and to working as partners with our families to help ALL our students learn at High levels. Our school encourages family to be:

\* teachers of their children at home,

\* supporters of our school and of public education,

\* advocates for their own and other children

\* decision makers in school policy and practice.

To be family-friendly, our school will provide:

1. A welcoming environment

\*friendly signs welcome visitors; the office is clearly marked

\*Standards of welcoming behavior apply to all staff, including front office staff, custodians, and cafeteria workers.

\*Visitors and callers are greeted politely, right away, and can get information easily.

\*The Kick-a-poo café is available for socializing with other parents.

\*School 12 hold a start of the year Family Welcome Back Picnic/Orientation.

 2. Programs and activities to engage families in improving student achievement

\*Current student work is displayed throughout the building so that visitors can understand the purpose of the work and the high standards it is to meet.

\*School events like the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration and Open House help families understand what their children are learning and promote high standards.

\*After School Clubs are offered in our building.

\*Information for tutoring programs is made available to parents.

\* The school reports to parents about student progress and how teachers, parents and members of the community can work together to make improvements.

 3. Strong relationships between teachers and students

\*The school welcomes new families, offers tours, and introduces them to staff and other families. Bilingual speakers are available to help families.

\*Teachers and families can meet face-to –face and get to know each other through open house, parent-teacher conferences, and special events.

\*Teachers make personal contact, whether in person, a phone call or a note home at least once a month.

\*A Parent liaison helps teachers to contact families and follows up on school and outside issues that affect our families.

 4. Opportunities for families to develop their skills, self-confidence, and contacts

 \*Families can choose from a variety of volunteer opportunities within the school.

 \*School committees and the PTA reflect the diversity of the school community and actively

 recruit and welcome families from all backgrounds.

 \*Parents are encouraged to join the PTA, to view the school website and attend First Friday

 Gatherings.

 5. Professional development for families and staff on how to work together productively

 \* Families learn how the school works and how to be effective advocates for their children.

\*Parents have the opportunity to join the school based planning team and share policies with other parents.

 \* Teachers have school and district professional development to learn successful

 approaches to working with families of diverse cultural backgrounds.

\*Families and staff can learn together how to collaborate to improve student achievement.

\*The school reaches out to identify and draw in local community resources that can assist staff and families.