



Parent Resource Newsletter

Making the Most of Your Parent-Teacher Conference

During parent-teacher conferences, teachers set aside time from their classes to meet with parents about their children's progress in school. Below are a few suggestions for parents to consider so they can make the most of the time they have with teachers.

Before the conference:

- Talk with your child about school. Ask:
 - What do you like best about school?
 - Who do you like to play and work with at school?
 - What have you been learning at school?
 - Are you having a hard time with anything you are learning at school?

Do a little homework:

- Review any of the materials your child's teacher sent home about the curriculum he or she is teaching.
- Think about your child's homework. Has your child had homework? How much? How difficult has it been for her to complete his or her homework?

What to bring to the conference:

- Samples of your child's homework that you have questions about;
- Any information you have about the curriculum in your child's classroom;
- Paper and pen;
- An open mind and a smile;

At the conference:

- Introduce yourself.
- Keep your child as your focus. Tell the teacher about your child's interests, strengths, learning style and/or goals.
- Tell the teacher about your hopes and dreams for your child.
- Listen to the teacher's ideas about how your child is doing in school.
- Ask the teacher about the strengths of your child and if he or she has any concerns for your child.
- Tell the teacher how you support your child's learning.
- Discuss any concerns you have about your child's learning.
- Ask how your child is doing in mastering the grade-level indicators for his or her grade.
- Ask how you can best help your child at home with his or her unique learning needs, especially with reading and math.
- Ask what the class will be learning in the next grading period.
- Ask about the different groups your child is in for reading, math and other subjects.
- Ask how the teacher determined where to place your child.
- Ask if your child has friends and gets along with classmates.
- Ask how your child is doing on the tests the teacher has given. Does your child have any problems taking tests?
- Clarify the best way to contact the teacher.
- Make sure the teacher knows the best way to contact you.

Resource: Ohio Dept of Education; Oct. 2009

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ??

What Can I Do as a Parent to help my child's learning?

Not all learning takes place in the classroom. You play a big role in your child's education. Use this list of suggestions when spending time with your children.

In the Car

- Read signs, addresses, and license plates.
- Read the speedometer and mileage gauge.
- Create math problems. (For example: We are traveling at a speed of 50 miles per hour, how long will it take us to get to the theater, which is 25 miles away?)
- Bring a map along. Calculate distance, locate major cities, determine your trip route, etc.

In a Restaurant

- Read the menu/
- Estimate the cost of selections.
- Estimate the change you should get when you pay the check.
- Estimate the tip.



At Home: Bedtime

- Read aloud to your child.
- Have your child read aloud to a family member.
- Retell favorite stories.

At Home: Around the House

- Label household items and furniture, where practical.
- Give children practice telling time by relating a specific time to an anticipated event. (For example; ask how many more minutes until a favorite TV program, or how long till we leave for the football game?)



At Home: In the Kitchen

- Read recipes.
- Measure ingredients.
- Plan a balanced diet.
- Double or halve a recipe.

Don't forget your Title I Teacher Conference scheduled the week of October 19th. Check with your child's Title I teacher if you have forgotten the date.

TITLE I NEWS

Getting to Know Your Title I Staff at Longcoy

You may have noticed we have some new faces at Longcoy and one of those is **Mrs. Susanne Pochedly**. Mrs. Pochedly was hired to our Longcoy Title I program as a Title I Math teacher. This is her first position in Kent City Schools. She attended Kent State University; however, she obtained her teaching degree at Notre Dame College of Cleveland. Prior to taking her new Title I position, she had been a substitute teacher in other school districts.

Susanne lives on a farm in Hiram with her husband of twenty years, Mike. They have three children (Steven, a freshman at Ohio University; Tom, a sophomore at Crestwood High School and Rebecca, an eighth grader at Crestwood Middle School).

Susanne loves working with others, especially children and she loves sharing her love of learning. That is what prompted her to go into education and become a teacher. She also had a positive influence from her parents who encouraged her to go to college and follow her dreams. Her favorite subject in school was biology, "Because it is all about life, and there are always new discoveries," says Susanne.

Susanne enjoys attending sporting events her children are involved in and in her free time she likes gardening, working on crafts, and traveling.

Mrs. Pochedly feels the Title I program is important because, "All students should have opportunities to know success." She feels some of the most important things students should learn are strategies to make them successful problem solvers. "I like seeing all students experiencing success," says Susanne. When asked what provides her greatest pleasure in teaching, she states: "Seeing a student's excitement when they learn something new." "The students are such hard workers and are so nice and the teachers are very supportive and helpful here at Longcoy."

We are so happy to have Mrs. Pochedly as a staff member in our Title I program at Longcoy School. We welcome her and hope you take the opportunity to meet her personally.

We have an excellent staff serving our Title I students in Reading and in Math. They come from diverse backgrounds in education and bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to Longcoy. We can't wait to share with you more information and facts about other Longcoy Title staff members and the work they are accomplishing with our students. These persons serve as liaisons between the Title I education program and our parents. We hope by getting to know them better; it helps in building a strong foundation for parental involvement. Watch for future Title I Connection newsletters with information and facts on our Title Staff here at Longcoy School.

Important Dates and Events to remember:



"EveryBody Counts!" Title I Family Math Night:



When: Wednesday, Nov. 4th, 2009

Where: Davey Elementary

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 (sign-in starts at 5:45)

Title I students and parents are invited to join the Title I Staff from each of our districts' elementary schools (Davey, Franklin, Holden, Longcoy, & Walls) for an evening of **learning and fun math activities**.

Please return your RSVP form to your Title I Teacher and let us know how many to expect. Hope to see you there!

Here are our 2009-2010 Title I Contacts:

- Davey School – Consultant, Mrs. Jeanie Hiestand (330-676-7462)
- Holden School – Consultant, Mrs. Katrina Kelling (330-676-8433)
- Longcoy School– Consultant, Ms. Georgia Darrah (330-676-8377)
- Walls School – Consultant, Ms. Tracy Foreman (330-676-8323)
- Franklin School – Consultant, Mrs. Caren Young (330-676-8450)
- Parent Involvement Coordinator – Ms. Pam Bose (330-676-7425)
- Federal Grants Coordinator – Mrs. Lori Slattery, Director of Instructional Program (330-676-7600)

Site Review

Resources available for Parents and Families:

Ohio Department of Education- Just For Families:

The ODE Web site is designed with a family section geared to helping parents understand what children are expected to learn in school - and how to help them succeed. Just go to the below website and go to **Just for Families** section. Website: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us>



Parents
plus
Schools
equals
Success