

Building Capacity for Involvement

- **We will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.**

At the beginning of the school year or when a child enrolls in Meek Elementary School, the parents or guardians of those children will be given a handbook which contains an explanation of the Winston County Schools criteria for grade placement as well as a list and explanation of all formal state and locally mandated assessments that will be given throughout the year. At the fall parent-teacher meeting, teachers will give advice to parents in regard to helping their children and monitoring their progress on a consistent basis. Teachers will be available on a daily basis during their preparation periods to assist parents in this area as needed. Additionally, parents may schedule appointments with teachers whenever necessary by simply calling the school.

- **We will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parents involvement.**

In addition to literature in the school handbook that explains the content and use of the Winston County Schools website and Meek Elementary School webpage, at least once yearly, parents will be given the opportunity to come into the school's computer lab to learn firsthand about navigating the abovementioned sites. A parent volunteer will be available in the lab at Family Night during the Meek Elementary Book Fairs to assist parents and visitors with web navigation.

- **We will educate our teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, 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 parents programs, and build ties between parents and the school.**

In the fall of each year, parents will be given the opportunity to anonymously make written suggestions regarding their child's education and the school's role on a daily basis. Their comments will be distributed to teachers and other staff members in an effort to make them aware of the thoughts, feelings, and "fears" that parents have in regard to sending their children to us each day. In so doing, we believe that we will better understand our children and their families on a personal basis rather than simply regarding them as stakeholders.

- **To the extent possible, work in conjunction with the local head start program in order to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.**

We will include the local community head start students in all appropriate educational programs of which they wish to be a part. We will include them in our daily master schedule in regards to use of the cafeteria, the gym, and schoolwide assemblies and programs. Also, we will coordinate a visit in the fall of each year for them to meet office staff and early childhood staff so that