

## **Sweetwater City Schools**

### **Family and Community Engagement Plan**

The Family and Community Engagement Plan of Sweetwater City Schools is based upon the concept that families have a major influence on their children's achievement in school and through life. As a result of this influence, positive results with student achievement occur when schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning. The focus of this action plan is to build trusting, collaborative relationships among teachers, families, and community members. It also recognizes, respects, and addresses families' needs, as well as class and cultural differences. Every school in the district has incorporated the standards as part of its own parent involvement plans.

The faculty and staff of Sweetwater City Schools are determined to communicate and involve parents and all stakeholders to better serve our students. Education should be the shared responsibility of students, teachers, parents, and the community. Sweetwater City Schools will attempt to increase family and community involvement with an action plan based upon the following standards implemented at each school.

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community – Families are active participants in the life of the school and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class and school.

Standard 2: Communicating effectively – Families and school staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about students' learning.

Standard 3: Supporting students success – Families and school staff continuously work together to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

Standard 4: Speaking up for every child – Families are informed and enabled to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.

Standard 5: Sharing power – Families and school staff are equal partners with equal representation in decisions that affect students and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

Standard 6: Collaborating with community – Families and school staff work together with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.