### What is a Contract?
A voluntary written agreement between home and school that states what each person will do to improve student achievement.

### Why have a Contract?
It helps everyone to understand what they are supposed to do and keeps everyone on track in support of students.

### What’s in a Contract?
Each contract can be designed to meet the specific needs of individuals. Most will include the following general topics:
- School Responsibilities
- Parent Responsibilities
- Signatures of:
  - School Staff
  - Parents
  - Child

Sample contract on back of page.
Sample Contract

Parent/Guardian Agreement (Any person who is interested in helping this student may sign.)
I want ________ to achieve. Therefore, I will encourage him/her by doing the following:
  * see that ________ attends school regularly and on time.
  * support the school in its efforts to maintain proper discipline
  * establish a time for homework and review it regularly
  * provide a quiet, well-lit place for study
  * encourage ________’s efforts and be available for questions.
  * provide a library card for ________.
  * read with my child and let my child see me reading.

Signature________________________________________

Student Agreement
It is important that I work to the best of my ability. Therefore, I shall strive to:
  * attend school regularly
  * come to school with necessary supplies
  * complete and return homework
  * observe regular study hours.
  * conform to rules of student conduct

Signature________________________________________

Teacher Agreement
It is important that students achieve. Therefore, I shall strive to do the following:
  * provide homework assignments
  * provide necessary assistance to parents so they can help with the assignments.
  * encourage students and parents by providing information about student progress
  * use special activities in the classroom to make learning enjoyable.
  * keep parents informed of what is going on in the classroom through monthly correspondence.

Signature________________________________________

A project of The Florida Partnership for Parent Involvement
Center of Excellence • Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute • Florida’s Children’s Forum
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters • Hillsborough County Head Start • Hillsborough County Even Start
The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI’s goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, “Beyond the Basics” resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series’ themes include:
- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF’s de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Parent Involvement, Parent Tip Sheets, #8: Home-School Contracts

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