

School Family Engagement Policy

Sam Houston Elementary 2023-2024

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Houston Elementary agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Consistent with section 1116, the school will work to ensure that the required school level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1116 of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) of the ESSA.
- Schools will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform 1 format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114(b) of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency (school district).
- The school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school will build its own and the parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

- The school will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1116 of the ESSA as the parents may request.
- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring-

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child 's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child 's education at school;

(C) that parents are full partners in their child 's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESSA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Houston Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parental involvement plan under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- *Present the plan at the Title I Meeting
- *Parents will be involved in Site-Based decision making process
- *Create opportunities for parents to volunteer
- *Have pertinent information planned to present at the monthly PTO meetings in order for parents to be informed.

2. Houston Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- *Policy will be sent home in both English and Spanish languages.
- *Parents will be involved in Site-Based decision making process
- *Policy will be presented at the Title I meeting
- *Policy will be reviewed annually.

3. Houston Elementary will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a time convenient for parents and will offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting, and will encourage them to attend by:

- *Invite parents to the Title I Part A meeting by sending invitations home in folders and posting on ClassDojo.
- *Holding a parent meeting in conjunction with a student event in an effort to maximize attendance (Meet the Teacher Night, fundraiser, day opportunities such as parties and Thanksgiving Feast)
- *Houston will offer meetings on different days at different times.

4. Houston Elementary will provide parents information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by:

- *Providing information on the State's expectations on our campus website and social media for parents.

- *Providing this information to parents via newsletters, iKids infomercials, Remind App, Skyward Family Access and Canvas.

5. Houston Elementary will at the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:

- *Scheduling parent-teacher conferences on any given day during the teacher's conference period, before school, or after school.

- *Invite parents to CARE Team meetings

- *Invite parents to participate in Site-Based decision making meetings and PTOs

- *Houston has an open-door policy

6. Houston Elementary will provide each parent an individual student report about the performance of his/her child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading by:

- *Providing results on the District and Campus website

- *NCLB Report Card and/or School Report Card will be provided to parents.

- *All testing; including common based assessments and benchmark test scores will be communicated to the parents.

7. Houston Elementary will help parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as:

- *the state's academic content standards,

- *the state's student academic achievement standards,

- *the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments

- *how to monitor their child's progress, and

- *how to work with educators

8. Houston Elementary will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- *PTO and CIP meetings

- *Utilizing the EISD Parent Resource Center and Parent Liaison

9. Houston Elementary will , with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- *Parent/ Teacher conferences
- *Site Based meetings
- *Utilizing the EISD Parent Resource Center and Parent Liaison
- *Houston school programs and performances

10. Houston Elementary will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Parent Teacher Organization, Parent Volunteers, Family Math and Reading Nights, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- *Specific grade level parent/ teacher/ student meetings
- *EISD Parent Resource Center trainings with Parent Liaison

11. Houston Elementary will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable , in a language the parents can understand:

- All correspondence between school and home will be in both English and Spanish
- All meetings and programs will have a translator
- Parents are invited to be an integral part of our PTO

PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The School Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1116(e) of the ESSA:

- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school- related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, arrange meetings with parents who are unable to attend conferences at school in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.

*The district reserves the right to modify the Parent Involvement Policy at any time. Notice of revisions will be provided as is reasonably practical.