

# *West Texas Elementary School*

## **Parent Involvement Policy**

**2020-21**

### **Statement of Purpose**

West Texas Elementary is committed to providing a quality education for every child that enrolls in the district. To this end, we want to work collaboratively with parents/guardians in the community. Everyone gains if educators and families work together to promote high achievement for all children. Neither the home nor the school can accomplish this job alone. Parental support for children and for the school is critical to each child's success at every step along the way.

### **Parent Involvement in Developing Policy**

*As is reasonable due to Covid-19*, parents, members of the community, and school staff will meet to discuss the design and implementation of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. West Texas Elementary School will actively recruit participation through various avenues of communication. Parent participation will strive to include a diverse population of members, to represent all families, during policy and decision making meetings. Meetings will be planned at convenient times and locations for stakeholders. District personnel will provide guidance and support to campuses in the development of their plan.

### **Annual Meeting for Title I Parents**

West Texas Elementary School will hold a minimum of two Title 1 meetings for parents during each school year, one in the fall and one in the spring. Additionally, both the fall meeting and the spring meeting will be offered at two different times as to offer flexibility for parents.

During the fall meeting, parents will be informed of new Title I guidelines, parent & family engagement opportunities, and district initiatives. Copies of the district's current Parent & Family Engagement Policy will be updated from the input of all meeting attendees, and then distributed or posted after changes have been made. Parents will be encouraged to become involved in the revising and updating of the policy. Volunteers will be recruited for the district-wide/campus advisory committee.

In the spring, a meeting will be held on campus and will be open to the public. This meeting will review categorical spending for the district, campus/district ratings, strategic plan updates, assist with campus/district comprehensive needs assessments/program evaluation for parent & family engagement, and a review and adoption of a District Parent & Family Engagement Policy. All meetings will be held at a convenient time and location. Written notices and postings will be directed at attracting as many parents as possible to participate in this process.

*\*Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, information may be disseminated and feedback collected electronically or virtually in order to prevent the spread of the virus and keep everyone safe.*

### **School-Parent Compact**

In accordance with Title I regulations, each school must develop a parent-student compact with the parents of students participating in the program. This compact will enable the school and parents to share responsibility for student performance and success.

The compact must explain how students, parents, families, and staff will share responsibility for student

performance and success. The compact must include activities or strategies on how students, parents, and staff will share responsibility for promoting student achievement. Members of the school's Campus Advisory Team will be consulted in the design and implementation of the compact.

All parents will be given a copy of the compact, detailing the responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students have in helping students accomplish their goals after the first grading cycle. Parent's/student's signatures will be highly encouraged after reading the compact with their student.

### **Types of Parental Involvement**

The school will support various parent & family engagement activities as it strives to develop and maintain an effective learning environment for all students. Parents will be encouraged to contribute through volunteer programs at school as well as create a supportive home environment. The community may participate through an array of activities that promote student success. Campuses will support parents/families in building academic and social-emotional knowledge to better support students. Input from parent volunteers will be used to provide feedback to the district for enhancement.

Each group will work collaboratively to develop and maintain parent & family engagement activities best suited to meet the individual needs of their student and campus.

*\*Please note that parental involvement opportunities are limited during the Covid-19 pandemic in order to keep all stakeholders safe to the highest degree possible. Parental involvement activities will continue as soon as Texas state leaders indicate that it is safe to proceed.*

### **Matching Programs to the Needs of the Community**

To the extent possible, the community will be consulted in the design, development, and implementation of the Title I program. Parent and student needs will be assessed through surveys and parental feedback, as well as a variety of research-based models, will be used to create a successful parent & family engagement. Programs will be designed to meet the unique student and parental needs of the district. Parents will be informed of engagement activities through the school office, personnel, and various media methods. The district welcomes parental suggestions and on-going communication. Parents and community members may direct recommendations to the campus principal.

### **Staff/Parent Communication**

Parents will be informed of student progress and opportunities for extended learning through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. Newsletters, conferences, personal contacts, phone calls, individualized emails, and written notices or mail will be utilized to establish and maintain an open line of communication.

### **Evaluation**

Parents will be questioned about the effectiveness of the program and offer suggestions for program improvement. The evaluation procedure will include assessment of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy as well as recommendations for improvement in academic and parent engagement programs. West Texas Elementary School will revise its Parental Involvement Policy on the basis of this annual review.

Commitment to family involvement has been approved by the Plemons-Stinnett-Phillips School Board. The policy will be coordinated by Title I supervisory staff and promoted by the campus principal, faculty, and other school staff.