



MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

at HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FELIX FRAGA

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY 2021 – 2022

On August 25, 2014 HISD opened two Middle College High Schools in partnership with Houston Community College:

- MCHS at HCC Gulfton– Serves the community of Southwest/Northwest Houston
- MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga – Serves the community of Southeast/Northeast Houston

Middle College High School is an HISD high school and is in partnership with Houston Community College. Our mission is all students will obtain their high school diploma in a supportive, flexible academic environment, while building habits and skills to help them be successful in any post-secondary academic institution or the workforce. Our school is perfect for students looking for a non-traditional school schedule that offers support in a safe and collegial environment.

Middle College has three primary populations.

- First, MCHS at Fraga is also for students needing a small environment because the traditional high school setting is/was not an effective model.
- Secondly, we serve students that are on track to graduate but have a life circumstance that limits their ability to thrive in the traditional high school and an earlier transition to college would be beneficial.
- Finally, we seek to support underserved students that have historically limited access to higher education and without additional support may never transition to college.

Middle College HS at HCC Felix Fraga is committed to the education of children in the community. The Faculty, staff and parents will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The school will work to ensure that the required parental involvement meets the requirements of section 1118 (The Elementary and Secondary Education Parental Involvement Policy (ESEA Parental Involvement Policy)).

In carrying out the Title 1, Part A, parental involvement requirements, 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request, and to extend practicable, in language parents understand.

Middle College HS at HCC Felix Fraga has developed this policy to describe how we involve parents/guardians in the development of the school policy and the School – Parent Compact. It is also intended to assist parents/guardians in their child's achievement in school. This policy was approved by the Principal, VIPS Coordinator, Title 1 Coordinator and Site-Based Decision-Making Committee representative at MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga.

## **Policy Involvement**

MCCHS at HCC Felix Fraga:

- Invites the parents/guardians of the students who participate in Title 1 programs to multiple meetings. These meetings are usually held in conjunction with meetings to which the parents/guardians of all students of MCCHS at HCC Felix Fraga are invited such as:
  - Parent Informational Meetings
    - HISD Continuity Plan
    - Meet the Teachers/Staff
  - Fall and Spring Open House,
    - Teacher and Classroom Expectations
  - Black History/Hispanic Heritage Month
    - Student Led Celebrations
  - Student awards ceremonies,
  - Students' work exhibitions,
  - Coffee with the Principal,
  - Pizza with the Principal,
  - SDMC Meetings
  - PAC meetings,
  - etc....

At these meetings, the Title 1 law is discussed including legal requirements under law, the rights of parents/guardians and students under the law, and the benefits of the law to the students and parents/guardians.

- In these meetings explanation of how parents can be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title 1 programs, including contributing to revisions to this Parent Involvement Policy.

## **Program Involvement**

At these meetings MCCHS at HCC Felix Fraga parents are provided with:

- Timely information about **all** our Title 1 programs.
- Campus Initiatives:
  - Dual Credit through HCC Collaboration
  - Career Technology Education (CTE) Pathways
  - APEX Grad Lab (credit recovery and original credit initiative)
  - On Time Grad (Acceleration)
  - Saturday School TSI preparation
  - Saturday School/STAAR EOC's Tutorials
  - Summer School, tutorials, STAAR tutorial programs,
  - HISD/HCC technology programs for students and parents/guardians.
  - Career Day
  - College & Career Fairs
  - HISD Parent University
  - Socio – Emotional Support
- Explanation of the curriculum, and expectations for our students.
- Explanation of how our school as a whole as well as each individual student is performing in relation to expected proficiency levels on state mandated assessment measures such as the STAAR/EOC exams, District mandated assessment measures such as REN 360 (BOY, MOY, EOY), TELPAS, DLA's, Content benchmarks, Common assessments, SAT/PSAT.

- Students' STAAR/EOC exam results are sent home for parents to review.
- Title 1 Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings respond to parent suggestions.

### **Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

A school- parent compact was initially developed in 2014, at a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting. This school-Parent Compact has been reviewed and/or revised annually by the PAC. This document ed and/or revised annually by the PAC. This document serves as an agreement between all parties that they will adhere to certain duties and responsibilities to ensure the success of the students. This Compact is also used to motivate students and parent/guardians to become more involved in the education process and let parents/guardians know that they are equal partners in their child's learning. This outlines how parents/guardians, the entire staff of MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga, and students will share responsibility for improving student academic achievement including the means by which MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga and parents/guardians will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve to high standards.

This Compact describes the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment. It also describes the ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their student's learning and how they will participate in decisions relating to the education of their children such:

1. Reviewing the School's Website
2. Social Media Platforms
3. Time Management & Organization
4. Frequent Parent – Student Conversations
5. Monthly Newsletters

This Compact also addresses the importance of ongoing communication between teachers and parents/guardians such as:

1. Parent-teacher conferences,
2. Progress reports,
3. Report cards,
4. Access to HISD Connect
5. Opportunity to observe child's class(es)
6. Volunteer at MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga (VIPS application)

### **Building Capacity for Involvement**

Middle College HS at HCC Felix Fraga will build the schools' and parents'/guardians' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement pf parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents/guardians, and the community to improve student academic achievement. It is part of MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga to parents/guardians in strategies focusing on how to help their children learn.

1. One way this is done is through the explanation of education laws. Parents/guardians are provided with information about Houston ISD, state, and national education goals, Title 1 requirements, STAAR, the School Improvement Plan and PAC Meetings. Bilingual communication in English and Spanish is always provided.
2. Additionally, parents/guardian educational sessions are help where presentations are designed to help parents/guardians know how to access student progress information from Parent/student-Connect, how parents/guardians can work with educators to help their student, and how to be involved in the decision making about the education of their children.
3. Ongoing training is also provided to MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga teachers and other staff members. These professional development sessions communicate to school staff the importance of involving parents, the role of parents as partners, programs available for parents, and methods for building ties between

home and school. PAC members periodically participate in these sessions to underscore the importance of parental involvement.

MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga strives to coordinate parental involvement activities among the different programs available on our campus. Shared parental involvement activities are sponsored for Title 1 Part A, PAC, and MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga.

### **Communication about Student Learning**

Participation and involvement of all parents is important to MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga. Information relating to standard information announcements, including this policy, the School- Parent Compact, etc., are provided to parents/guardians in both English and Spanish. Also, student achievement data, upcoming school activities, parent programs, meetings, and other opportunities for participation are sent home in the home language via:

- **Parent/Student Email**
- **Microsoft Teams Virtual Meetings**
- **Face – to – Face (In – person) Meetings**
- **US Postal Mail**
- **Parent Email (when applicable)**
- **Parent Phone Call/Text (Standard text messaging rates may apply)**

Home visits are conducted by designated staff members from MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga under certain circumstances. If it is impossible for a parent/guardian to come to the school due to illness or injury, and they request a face-to-face meeting, a home visit may be arranged. Also, if no valid telephone number for contact has been provided a home visit will occur, if necessary, to contact and inform a parent/guardian. Additionally, we ensure that parents/guardians with disabilities have the opportunity to participate in all activities by providing handicap access to all areas of MCHS at HCC Felix Fraga.