



# Audrey H. Lawson Middle School

Houston Independent School District

Keoshya Dunn, Principal  
713-434-5600 • Fax: 713-434-5608

14000 Stancliff Street  
Houston, TX 77045-5399

## Lawson Middle School Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2024-2025

Audrey Lawson Middle School is committed to the education of the children in our community. We feel parent engagement is an essential piece in ensuring that our students are successful in school. We believe that when parents are more involved in the academic process, school becomes more of a priority for their children. Lawson's Middle School's motto is "**Be a LEARNER. Be a LEADER. Be LEGENDARY**". This expression is not only intended to be utilized within our school, but is something we hope resonates in our community. It is our mission to produce a community of life-long learners. It is our pledge to maintain a good line of communication from school to homes and our goal to provide ample opportunities for parental engagement throughout each school year.

### PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Lawson Middle School will host a total of four "Option 1" meetings. In addition, an "Option 2" meeting will occur within a week to allow parents to participate if they are unable to meeting "Option 1". The initial parent meeting (The Title I, Part A Annual Fall Meeting) will occur within the first two weeks of September each year whereby parents will be given a review of the Title I Program school requirements and the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Lawson Middle School will conduct virtual meetings when in-person meetings are not suitable.

Lawson Middle School annually invites parents to participate in review and revision meetings and are encouraged to examine and discuss our School Improvement Plan, School-Parent Compact and the Parent and family Engagement Policy.

Parents are invited to participate in a variety of meetings and activities over the course of the school year. An Open House is held in September and again in February to provide parents the opportunity to formally visit their child's classroom to become better informed about grade level expectation and their student's academic progress.

Parents are invited to participate in parent-teacher conferences to discuss their child's progress. Teachers may receive parents in the morning, during the school day and/or after school to accommodate as many reciprocating parents as possible.

Additionally, Lawson Middle School hosts parent meetings to keep parents informed and connected to school and community resources that promote student success.

Lawson Middle School communicates regularly with parents regarding the state's and district's curricular and assessment expectations, school wide requirements in relation to the delivery of instruction, the techniques utilized to evaluate student work, and individual classroom routines pertinent to the academic success of our students.

In order to communicate effectively with parents, Lawson Middle School uses a variety of communicative techniques to encourage parent participation and deliver important information in hopes of creating productive dialogue between home and school concerning improved student achievement:

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- Virtual Meetings (if necessary)
- Social Media
- School Calendar
- Newsletters
- Title 1 Parent Meetings
- School Open House/ Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Title 1 Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- Title 1 School-Parent Compact
- School Website/ Parent Link (phone call system)
- Progress Reports and Report Cards

## SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Student education is not only the responsibility of the teacher, but also the parent and child. For this reason, a Parent-Teacher-Student Compact has been developed and is utilized in our school.

The school staff and parents shall jointly develop a home-school compact that explains how parents, students and school staff will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The compact shall be reviewed annually and modified as needed.

## BUILDING CAPACITY FOR ENGAGEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community with the goal of improving student academic achievement, Lawson Middle School will do the following:

- provide assistance to the parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and the state student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments.
- provide materials and training to assist parents working with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training.
- educate teachers, pupil services personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in how to reach out to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.
- ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. Lawson Middle School has made it a practice to send home school correspondences in English and Spanish to ensure all information related to our school is understandable.

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Parents of all students, regardless of English proficiency, mobility or disability, are considered to be an important part of our learning community. All parents are afforded the opportunity to be involved in their child's school environment.

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For this reason, if a special need is identified, that would help a parent to more fully understand the educational process and the academic progress of his/her child, assistance will be provided to that parent. This type of support comes in the form of interpreted school documents in a parent's primary language, having an interpreter on hand to translate important information at school wide meetings and events, working with an interpreter to provide translation in parent/teacher conferences, making available parent resource in our library that are in English and Spanish, participating in faculty and staff training to better understand the culture of the students served.

Last Reviewed October 2024

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