



# Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Emerson Elementary 2024-2025



Emerson Elementary School is committed to the education of the children in our community, to providing the safest learning environment and to preparing our students academically and socially for responsible citizenship in an ethnically diverse society. We believe that the family and the school must work together to ensure that students are successful. Emerson believes in the importance of family and community engagement, and its impact on reaching instructional objectives for our students. We feel parent involvement is an essential piece in ensuring that our students are not only successful in school but also in the development of strong character that will allow them to succeed in life. It is our mission to produce a community of life-long learners.

Further, Emerson is dedicated to developing and improving our relationships with our parents and families by building and sustaining parent engagement. We are committed to the belief that the most successful engagement practices are those that are relational, allow for shared responsibility, linked to learning and build the capacity of parents and families to become advocates in their children's education. It is our pledge to uphold those core foundational values in all family engagement practices at Emerson.

*Title I regulations require that each school served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written parental engagement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements outlined in Title I law. Emerson Elementary agrees to uphold all statutory requirements of section 1116 of the Every Students Successful Act (ESSA)*

## EMERSON'S FOUR FOUNDATIONS FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

### 1. Relationship Building Practices

Emerson teachers and staff strongly support foundational practices that allow for the development of trust between the parent/family and the school. Meet the Teacher occurs at the end of August, one week prior to the first day of school. This time allows for students, parents, and teachers to have that introduction to one another. Emerson hosts a variety of school-wide, free events, in order to provide the foundations of a positive relationship between the school and the home, these include, but are not limited to:

- Veterans Day Celebration
- Black History Month Celebration
- International Festival

### 2. Shared Responsibility

The education of a student is not only the responsibility of the teacher, but also of the parent and the child. For this reason, a Parent-Teacher-Student Compact has been developed and is utilized in our school. This document serves as an agreement between all parties that they will adhere to certain duties and responsibilities to ensure the success of the student. It is reviewed and signed by all at the beginning of each

school year. The signed compact is kept by the teacher and used in student and parent conferences to remind each participant of their responsibilities. These compacts are also used to motivate students and parents to become more involved in the educational process and to let parents know that they are equal partners in their child's learning.

## COMMUNICATION

- o Our school communicates with parents often the state'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 rituals and routines pertinent to the academic success of our students.
- o Emerson will 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.
- o We use a variety of communicative techniques to solicit parent participation and deliver important information in hopes of creating productive dialogue between home and school concerning improved student achievement. Which include the following:
  - classroom newsletters
  - school-wide semester event calendar
  - Emerson Twitter page
  - Messaging applications (Class Dojo)
  - Parent/Teacher conferences
  - PTO meetings
  - individual notes/calls home, targeted conversations at dismissal
  - school flyers for events
  - school website
  - communication folders
  - School Messenger
  - IAT/ARD Meetings
  - Progress reports and Report Cards
  - School marquee sign
  - RTI Interventions
  - K-1 Dyslexia Screening

### 3. Building Capacity for Involvement that is Linked to Learning

Emerson commits to providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. Additionally, Emerson will provide assistance to the parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. Emerson utilizes family events that are centered around the core foundational subject areas, to provide specific training on how to utilize a variety of activities/strategies at

the home that directly can improve their child’s achievement. All events are tailored to the needs of our families, providing translation services, teacher led activities from each grade-level, and occur at a flexible time of the day.

Family events directly linked to learning curriculum:

- o Family Literacy Night
- o Family Math Night
- o Family Science Night
- o Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT)

Shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with community based early learning programs and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

#### 4. Building Capacity for Involvement Leading to Increased Parent Advocacy

School review and improvement involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs, including planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy, school- parent compact, and school improvement plan. An organized PTO has been established in our school to create a forum for parental input and involvement. Our PTO affiliation connects our school to parental involvement resources at the state and national level.

### MEETINGS AND FORUMS

#### ANNUAL TITLE I SCHOOL WIDE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

o Which will be held at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I and to explain the requirements and the right of the parents to be involved. We will offer eight (8) meetings total. These are regular face-to-face or virtual meetings to provide trainings to parents as well as collaborate with them about the progress of their child. We will conduct at least 4 meetings each year. Each child’s education meeting will be conducted twice; once in the morning and once in the evening and on different days. A total of 8 meetings will be conducted to accommodate parents.

Date	Time
1A. Sept. 18, 2024	11:30 AM
1B. Sept. 19, 2024	13:30 PM
2A. Dec. 5, 2024	9:30 AM
2B. Dec. 6, 2024	13:30 PM
3A. Feb. 6, 2025	9:30 AM
3B. Feb. 7, 2025	13:30 PM
4A. April 2, 2025	9:30 AM
4B. April 3, 2025	13:30 PM

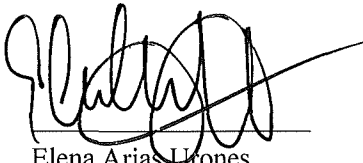
Revision of school wide Parent Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact are held by the end of September each school year.

o 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. 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 support often 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 center that are in English and Spanish, participating in faculty and staff training to better understand the culture of the students served, providing easier accessibility to parents and/or students with disabilities, etc.

#### ADOPTION

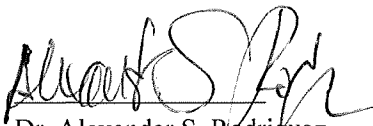
This Emerson Elementary Parent/Family Engagement policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by our agenda and sign in sheets for the meeting held on September 19, 2024.

This policy was adopted by Emerson Elementary on September 19, 2024 and will be in effect for the period of one calendar school year. The policy will be available to all parents of participating Title I Part A children through our school website and will be distributed to students/parents.



Elena Arias Urones  
Title I Coordinator

\_\_\_\_ 9/19/2024 \_\_\_\_  
Date



Dr. Alexander S. Rodriguez  
Principal Emerson ES

\_\_\_\_ 9/19/2024 \_\_\_\_  
Date