

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TITLE I, PART A, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

Westbury High School

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2015-2016 Title I Parent Involvement Policy

Westbury is dedicated to providing quality education for every student, by doing so Westbury will develop and maintain a partnership with parents and students to fulfill that goal.

In accordance with the 2002 "No Child Left Behind Act" Westbury High School Title I Program has developed and will implement the following guidelines under the Parent Involvement Policy.

If students are to be successful, their parents or guardians must be actively involved in their education. Westbury High School has developed this policy to describe how we involve parents in the development of policy and the School-Parent Compact, to help parents to help their children achieve in school, and to make sure parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities can participate in their children's education. This policy was developed with the assistance and approval of the parents of children participating in the Title I program, as well as the Principal, VIPS/School Volunteer Coordinator, Parent Involvement Liaison, Title I Coordinator, PAC Representatives, and Teachers.

Policy Involvement: Twice a year, once a semester the parents are invited to an annual meeting, the parents will meet the teachers, learn about classroom guidelines and expectations and set up parent/teacher conferences with the teacher. Additional meetings throughout the school year are schedule for parents with the administrator and teachers from each house academy.

We also schedule and facilitate speakers to come in and speak on different topics for our parents meeting. We explain how parents can be involved in implementing school improvement programs under the Title I program, including, jointly conducting an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy and revise as necessary. Additionally, Westbury High School will hold four Title One Parent Advisory Committee meetings scheduled throughout the school year.

Program Involvement: At these meeting, we give parents information about our Title I programs, before and after school tutoring, graduation lab, technology, social services, counseling, and bilingual services. We describe our curriculum, explain our expectation for our students, and explain how we measure student's performance. Additionally, we give out information on outreach centers and programs. Parents are provided with many opportunities to volunteers for school related activities before, during and after school day. We hold Parent Meetings, PTO and Parent Advisory Committee meetings to respond to parent suggestions. We let parents make suggestions and share experience with other parents and participate in decision making. If the school-wide program plan is unsatisfactory to the parents, the school submits parents' comments to the district and revises the plan as advised by the Houston Independent School District and /or Parent Advisory Committee.

School-Parent Compact: A school-parent compact was developed jointly with parents attending the first PAC Meeting. It explains how parents, school staff and the students will all share responsibility for each student's academic success. Parents are given the opportunity to review and recommend changes to this document at the beginning of each school year.

Building Capacity for Involvement: It is part of Westbury's role to teach parents how to help their children learn. There are several methods involved in ensuring that this happens including explaining education laws to parents/guardians; having resources on hand that outline parents rights and responsibilities; copies of the district and state's educational policies and curriculum (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) and clear outlined procedures and practices provided in the parent's native language, and providing parents with documentation notifying them of the Title I requirements, contents and performance on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) and the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STARR) exams.

Parent Training and Involvement: Presentation funded by Title I Part A parental involvement are designed to help parents know if a child is doing well, and how parents can work with educators to help their children, and how to be involved in decision-making about the education of their children. Training and materials are provide in our Parent Resource Center where we prepare, present and lead parent development workshops to help parents help their children. Other activities include Building Home-School Relationships, College and Financial Aid Workshops, Westbury and HISD online resources, ESL Parent Meeting, Literacy and Technology training.

Training is also provided to teachers and other staff members. School staff are taught the importance of involving parents, parents as partners, programs for parents, and building ties between home and school.

Our school strives to coordinate parental involvement activities among the different programs available on our campus including ESL, CTE, and Special Education. Additionally, Westbury High School has partnered with the Alliance for Multicultural Community Services to provide training, translation, and interpreting services to our international parents and the teachers who instruct those students.

Accessibility: Participation and involvement of all parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance and state standard test scores, school and parent programs, meetings, and other opportunities for participation is sent home in the home language, whenever possible. Some of the standard information sent home in English/Spanish and Vietnamese including this policy, are the School-Parent Compact, Back to School, The Code of Student Conduct publications and school letters/flyers. For parent meeting, interpreters are provided for non-English speaking parents.

We ensure that parents with disabilities have the opportunity to participate by providing handicapped access to the downstairs portion of our building, which includes all meeting and conference areas.

Evaluation: Westbury High School will be evaluated by collecting information in various ways, with parent, students and teacher surveys, program evaluations and the school's report card from the District and State.

Revise Date: 9/2015