

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Gallegos Elementary School Title I, Part A School-Wide 2022 - 2023

Purpose

A strong partnership between the school and home is essential if a quality educational program is to be provided to all students. Gallegos Elementary School is dedicated to the philosophy that parent involvement is integral to the success of each student. For this reason, parents are actively recruited as our partners for success. Parents will be invited to participate in the annual revision of the campus School-Family Compact, the campus Family Engagement Policy, the Campus Improvement Plan, and the Comprehensive Needs Assessment. An updated copy of the Family Engagement policy will be posted annually on the campus web page. Two annual meetings will be held to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, to explain the Title I, Part A requirements, and the rights of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The meeting will be held at a time that is convenient for parents to attend.

Goals/Requirements

- The school will work to ensure that the required school levels of parent involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1116 ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act).
- The school will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, school leaders, and other staff, in the value of parental contribution and in how to communicate with parents to build school-family connections.
- The school will communicate with parents in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand (English/Spanish). The school will use the following modes to communicate with parents:
 - Homework/Conduct Sheets (Kinder – 2nd Grade)
 - School Flyers
 - Positive notes home to parents of student success
 - Parent/Teacher Conference Forms
 - School Marquee
 - Houston ISD Web Page
 - Gallegos Elementary Web Page
 - Translators Provided
 - Automated Mass Calling System Through District Schedule
 - Automated call-out system (campus)
 - ClassDojo
 - Social Media platforms – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- The school and parents will work collaboratively to ensure strong family engagement, to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community, and to improve student academic achievement. The following is a list of opportunities that have been created to inform and involve parents, not limited to other reasonable support for family engagement activities as parents may request:
 - Meet the Teacher Night – First Visit w/Child's New Teacher in August
 - Open House Night
 - Grandparents Luncheon
 - Title I, Part A Annual Fall Meeting
 - Provided at a convenient time to which all parents of participating children are invited and encouraged to attend to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I

- Coffee with the Principal
 - Communities in Schools Manager -work with students and communicate with parents
 - Flyers/Notices Home (Outlining school curriculum, forms of academic assessment)
 - Progress Reports and Report Cards
 - Parent Volunteer Opportunities – Must have VIPS
 - Parent Workshops/Support/Resources
 - Family Fall Festival
 - SDMC Committee Meetings
 - Content Nights (Literacy and Math Night)
 - Sharing of school report card (campus website/school newsletter)
 - Elementary Promotional Ceremony
 - STAAR End of Year Student/Parent Reports
 - TELPAS End of Year Student/Parent Reports
 - Title I, Part A Annual Spring Meeting
 - Clubs (Cheerleading, soccer, etc.)
 - Field Day
 - Book Fairs
 - ACE Showcase – Fall and Spring
 - Campus Gifted and Talented EXPO
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- The school will have teachers hold parent teacher conferences annually where the teachers will review grade level content standards, student assessments, and progress data with parents. The teachers will provide parents with support on how to work with their child to improve their child's academic achievement. Parents will also have opportunities for regular meetings relating to their children's education, when requested.
 - The school will provide/families with timely information, a description and explanation of the curriculum use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet, and parents have the opportunity to suggest and participate in decisions related to the education of their children.
 - The school will educate, coordinate, and integrate family engagement programs and activities in a timely manner with other Federal, State, and local programs, and conduct other activities, such as family engagement centers, that support parents in fully participating in their children's education.
 - Academic nights for Reading, Science, and Math will be developed with the purpose of providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
 - The school will offer four (4) required Title I meetings and four alternate meetings (total of 8). Each of these meetings will be scheduled in the morning and afternoon on different days to accommodate parents.
 - If the schoolwide program plan (campus improvement plan) is not satisfactory to the parents/families, the school will submit parents'/families' comments on the plan to the External Funding Title I Department and revise the plan with designees.
 - Parents are encouraged to provide the school feedback on all its Title I, Part A school-wide program activities. Feedback is welcome at all parent involvement activities and on climate survey.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS: a component of the school level parent/family engagement policy shall jointly develop with parents for all children served a school parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

Such Compact Shall-

- Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under this part to meet the State's student academic achievement standards (STAAR).
- Ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching, volunteering in their child's classroom.
- Ways in which parents will participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
 - Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents/families on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum Parent-teacher conferences, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's academic achievement.
 - Frequent Reports to parents on their children's progress.
 - Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT – To ensure effective engagement of parents/families & to support a partnership among the school, parents, families, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the campus will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent/family engagement by implementing the REQUIRED POLICY ACTIVITIES the school:

- will assist parents of the children being served in understanding the TEKS, STAAR, and the district's and school's assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress, and work with educators to improve achievement of their children.
- will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children, such as literacy training and using technology to foster parent/family engagement.
- will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, & work with parents/families as equal partners, implement / coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents, families, and school.
- will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other programs.
- will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- will provide reasonable support for parent/family engagement activities such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents to be involved.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR ENGAGEMENT – To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the campus will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent/family engagement by implementing OPTIONAL POLICY ACTIVITIES and the school *may*:

- involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.
- provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent/family engagement activities (including transportation) to enable parents/families to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents/family members.

- arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences between teachers (or other educators who work directly with participating children) and parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, to maximize parent/family engagement and participation.
- adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent/family engagement.
- develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent/family engagement activities.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

Gallegos Elementary will hold annual meetings to review the Family Engagement Policy and the School-Family Compact. The Family Engagement Policy ensures that there is a strong partnership between the school and the parent. A School- Family Compact will describe school and parent responsibilities.