

Jefferson Elementary

Parent & Family Engagement Policy

2020 – 2021



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NOTE: *In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (parental involvement policy).*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Houston Independent School District is committed to working together with parents, students, the community and other stakeholders to improve student academic achievement. The goal of HISD is to ensure that all students graduate from high school ready to succeed in college and/or the career of their choice. The district recognizes that parents play an extremely important role as their child's first teacher and are valued partners in the educational process. As a result, parents will be included in appropriate decision-making opportunities to support student academic achievement. Partnerships with parents and the community are vital. Therefore, HISD encourages the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. HISD wants parents to:

- Stay informed about their child's academic well-being through various forms of communication.*
- Work in partnership with school staff to help their child to achieve at the highest levels.*
- Communicate to their child the importance of being prepared for college and a career.*

The HISD curriculum is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and includes nonnegotiable objectives that must be taught at every grade level. However, individual schools are held accountable for innovative instructional programs and its instructional results. Every HISD student will be provided equal access to rigorous instruction and academic programs. HISD recognizes that some students Page 2 may need additional assistance which is available through the Title I, Part A program to obtain high academic achievement.

PART I.
GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The **Jefferson Elementary** agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Consistent with section 1118, the school will work to ensure that the required school level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118 of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Schools will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, 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 the extent practicable, in language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114(b) of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency (school district).
- The school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school will build its own and the parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.
- The school will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 of the ESEA as the parents may request.

PART II.
DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. **Jefferson Elementary** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parental involvement plan under section 1118 of the ESEA:
 - *SDMC*

2. **Jefferson Elementary** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - *Parent representatives SDMC*
 - *Parent survey*
 - *Title I annual Meeting*

3. **Jefferson Elementary** will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a time convenient for parents and will offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting, and will encourage them to attend, by:
 - *Send weekly Newsletter reminder*
 - *Mass Call-outs*
 - *Flyers*
 - *Parent Communication Folders*
 - *School Marquee*

4. **Jefferson Elementary** will provide parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by:
 - *Open House*
 - *Curriculum night*
 - *STAAR Night*

5. **Jefferson Elementary** will at the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:
 - *Parent Meetings*
 - *SDMC Meetings*

6. **Jefferson Elementary** will provide each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading by:
 - *US postal Mail*
 - *Online link with access code*

7. **Jefferson Elementary** will take the following actions to provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in section 200.56 of the Title I Final Regulations (67 Fed. Reg. 71710, December 2, 2002) by:
 - *Parent Notification- Title I Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications*

8. **Jefferson Elementary** will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --
 - the state's academic content standards,
 - the state's student academic achievement standards,
 - the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - the requirements of Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators:
 - STAAR curriculum night

9. **Jefferson Elementary** will provide 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, by:
 - *Offering family curriculum night*
 - *Literacy Night*
 - *Steam Night*
 - *Math Night*
 - *Parent Meetings*

10. **Jefferson Elementary** will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
 - *SDMC*

11. **Jefferson Elementary** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teacher Programs, public preschool, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
 - Examining assessment data
 - Setting goals for children's achievement
 - Learn simple games and activities to develop student's competency

12. **Jefferson Elementary** will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
 - *Send weekly Newsletter reminder*
 - *Mass Call-outs*
 - *Flyers*
 - *Parent Communication Folders*
 - *School Marquee*
 - *Social media: Twitter, Jefferson Facebook page*

PART III.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The school Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, arrange meetings with parents who are unable to attend conferences at school in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.

PART IV.

ADOPTION

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A program.

This policy was adopted by the **Houston Independent School District** on 09/30/2019 and will be in effect for the period of 2020-2021. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before 10/09/2020.