



**Jenard Gross Elementary**  
12583 S Gessner Rd. • Houston, Texas 77071  
Phone: (713) 778-8450 Fax: (713) 778-8454

## **The Jenard Gross Elementary School Campus Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024**

### **Mission:**

"Jenard Gross Elementary School is committed to improving the quality of instruction for all students. It is our mission to increase literacy from Pk through 5<sup>th</sup> grade."

### **Vision:**

"Together we are closing achievement gaps and preparing all students for their individual and collective futures."

Jenard Gross Elementary School has developed the Parent and Family and Engagement Policy to describe the School-Parent Compact and how we involve parents in the development of policy. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will help parents and their children acquire academic achievement and 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, Title I Coordinator, Bilingual Program Representative, Special Education Representative, Volunteers in Public Service (VIPS) Coordinator, and Shared Decision-Making Committee (SDMC) representative.

We hold parental involvement meetings; 4 times each year (2) per semester at different times to respond to parent suggestions. The meetings will include a sign in sheet and minutes. We let parents make suggestions and share experiences 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, External Funding, Shared Decision-Making Committee (SDMC), and other district designees. In addition, ongoing communication will occur between teachers and families with scheduled parent-teacher conferences and reports to communicate students' progress.

### **POLICY INVOLVEMENT**

Each year, parents of all students who participate in the Title I or other federal programs are invited to a series of meetings. Parents may select which meeting they would like to attend. Our campus will hold an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be encouraged to attend along with their children. At the meetings, we discuss Title I law, its requirements, and the rights and benefits to parents of children involved.

Parents can be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including contributing to this parental involvement policy, and are invited to attend Parent and Family Engagement meetings (PFE) as well as participate as members of the SDMC (Shared Decision-Making Committee). Parents who jointly developed and agreed with the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be



## **Jenard Gross Elementary**

12583 S Gessner Rd. • Houston, Texas 77071

Phone: (713) 778-8450 Fax: (713) 778-8454

documented through a sign-in sheet. The committee will reconvene to discuss the policy and update it if necessary, throughout the school year.

Additionally, the Campus Improvement Plan will be discussed with parents of participating children.

Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) meetings 4 times each year (2) per semester at different times where parents are given information about our Title I program, including (science, reading, math, tutoring, computer lab, after-school tutorials, bilingual services, etc.) In these meetings, we will also discuss the HISD curriculum (TEKS – Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills), our expectations for students, and how we measure student performance. We explain how each child and our school are doing on state tests such as the STAAR, and district assessments such as High Frequency Words Evaluation, Benchmark Running Records and Snapshots. We also encourage parents to make suggestions and share experiences with other parents and participate in decision-making.

We encourage parents to attend parent/ teacher conferences to discuss their child's academic progress. Parents receive information regarding these meeting in a timely manner. If requested by parents, regular meetings can be conducted to communicate and respond to suggestions and participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

### **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

The School-Parent Compact was developed jointly with parents of participating Title I students and explains how parents, school staff, and the student will all share responsibility for each student academic success. Parent-teacher conferences are held as needed during the school year. Throughout that time, the compact is discussed as to how it relates to their child's academic achievement. Our School-parent compact is filed on campus and with the Houston ISD External Funding Department.

In addition, progress reports are sent home once every six weeks. Parents are given an opportunity to volunteer, participate in classroom activities, observe, and become involved in their child's learning.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT**

It is part of Jenard Gross Elementary School's role to teach parents how to help their children learn and to build the school's and parents' capacity for a strong parental involvement policy as well as increase academic achievement. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support/improve a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve student academic achievement, the campus will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement by implementing volunteer opportunities.

Parents of students may arrange school meetings at a variety of times and conduct in-person, by phone, or virtual conferences with their child's teacher to maximize parent-family engagement and participation. Additionally, at the teacher's or parent's request, regular meetings can be scheduled to discuss ways to support their child academically.

If requested, our school may pay reasonable and necessary expenses (including transportation) associated with local family school events, meetings, and trainings sessions.





**Jenard Gross Elementary**  
12583 S Gessner Rd. • Houston, Texas 77071  
Phone: (713) 778-8450 Fax: (713) 778-8454

Our school understands and values the engagement of our parents. Therefore, to improve family and parental engagement, our school may adopt and implement model approaches that support our drive to increase parent and family participation.

### **PARENT TRAINING AND INVOLVEMENT**

Parent trainings and presentations are held to show parents how they can work at home to help their children in core academic subject areas and how to be involved in decision-making about the education of their children. Materials and trainings such as Family Literacy Night, Science and Math Night, and review of STAAR/IOWA/Logramos are provided to help parents work with their child/children. Our campus will provide additional resources and information from external agencies to meet other basic needs to assist our families.

Training is also provided to teachers and other staff members that will include parent involvement. Our school staff is taught the importance of involving parents as partners and building relationships between home and school. Community-based organizations and businesses are encouraged to sponsor activities involving parents, school, and community. We seek support from local businesses and social agencies.

Our school strives to coordinate parental engagement activities among the different programs. Shared parental involvement activities are sponsored for Title I, Pre-Kindergarten, and Neighborhood Vanguard/GT – Gifted and Talented, Special Education, and bilingual programs. Technology trainings are also offered to parents to assist them in supporting their students in a virtual learning environment.

Involving parents as partners, builds relationships between home and school. In addition, roles for community-based organizations will be developed. Our school strives to coordinate parental involvement activities among the different programs available on our campus.

### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

Involvement of all parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance, school and parent programs, meetings, and other opportunities for participation are sent home in English and Spanish.