



Ruby L. Thompson Neighborhood Vanguard School

6121 Tierwester Street
Houston, Texas 77021
(713) 746-8250- Fax: (713) 746-8104
Erica Brame-Manuel, Principal



Thompson Parental Engagement Policy

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PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Ruby L. Thompson Elementary is a school-wide Title I, Part A campus, and is committed to providing a quality education for every child in this school. As a parent you have the right to be in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I Program. Thompson Elementary understands the value of parental and family engagement in ensuring that we attain our instructional goals. The collaboration between home and school, will help all students reach their academic potential. This partnership is imperative for student success. Therefore, Thompson will include parents in all aspects of the school's Title I Program.

The school will notify parents of the policy in a language that they can understand. The policy will be also be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. Parents of all students are valued partners. Therefore, opportunities will be provided for all parents to be a part of their child's learning community, regardless of limited English proficiency, mobility, or disabilities. Student data and information will be provided in the parent's primary language, and interpreters will be provided as needed, during school-wide meetings, events, and parent/ teacher meetings.

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 Houston Independent 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 engagement 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 engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

- (A) parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*



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

1. **Thompson Elementary School** will involve parents in the joint development of its school parental engagement plan under section 1118 of the ESEA and in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - *Annual Title I Meetings*
 - *Quarterly SDMC Meetings*
 - *PTO Meetings*
 - *Open House*
 - *Family Nights*
2. **Thompson Elementary** will hold 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 engagement 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. The various communication methods include:
 - *School calendars*
 - *Communication Folders*
 - *Call-outs reminder for the meetings*
 - *Digital Communication Apps*
 - *School Website*
3. **Thompson 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.
 - *As the information becomes available*
 - *Parent's will get a copy in the student's Wednesday folder*
 - *Copies will be provided at the parent's request*
4. **Thompson 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:
 - *During parent meetings/conferences*
 - *During IAT & ARD meetings*
 - *Meeting with the campus leadership team*



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5. **Thompson Elementary School** 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:
 - *Distributing original testing data to parents within 10 school days*
6. **Thompson 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:
 - *Sent home in weekly Wednesday Folder*
7. **Thompson Elementary** will assist parents of children served by the school, in understanding the following topics:
 - 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: Family Literacy, Math & Science Nights, Open House, Meet, & STAAR Parent Night
8. **Thompson Elementary** will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy and technology training, as appropriate, to foster parental engagement, during:
 - *Family Literacy Night*
 - *Math/Science Night*
 - *STAAR Parent Night*
9. **Thompson Elementary** will with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff on 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:
 - *Building partnerships with local businesses*
 - *Building partnerships with local homeless shelters*
 - *Building partnership with community churches/faith-based organizations*
10. **Thompson Elementary** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, 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, with programs such as:



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- *HIPPY*
- *FACE*

11. ***Thompson Elementary*** will 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.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The School Parental Engagement Policy may choose to build parents' capacity for engagement 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;
- training parents to enhance the engagement 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 engagement and participation in their children's education;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental engagement;
- establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental engagement activities.

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PART IV. ADOPTION

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

This policy was adopted by ***Thompson Elementary*** and will be in effect for the period of 2020-2021.