



Heights High School

International Baccalaureate World School

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SCHOOL – PARENT COMPACT 2020-21

Heights High School faculty, staff, and parents of students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

Heights High School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

Consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) (parental involvement policy), the school will work to ensure that the required parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118.

The school 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. This includes 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).

Heights High 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 by the District, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

The school will foster the capacity for building a climate that encourages 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.

Heights High School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 of the ESEA as the parents may request.

Heights High School will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with the following definition:

NOTE: Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communications involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring –

- (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) that 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.*

School Responsibilities

Heights High School will:

1. Take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parental involvement plan under section 1118 of the ESEA:

The PAC/PTO Board will be involved in the development of the parent/family engagement policy.

The SDMC and leadership team will be involved in the development of the parent/family engagement policy.

The school Title I Contact Person will be an active member of the PTO Board.

2. Take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- The Principal will ensure that the SDMC has the required number of parents and that the parents input will be included in the decision making process as appropriate.

3. 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, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend.
4. Provide opportunities for parents, at their request to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to parent requests as soon as practicably possible.

Provide scheduled meetings that parents may attend and confer with teachers and/or administrators at various times throughout the year. Meeting times should be arranged so as to accommodate the majority of parents. Some examples of scheduled meetings are as follows:

Curriculum Night

Magnet Dept. open house and parent Meetings

Magnet Tours for parents of prospective students

Project Grad Informational Meetings

College nights

At least four PTO Meetings

Bring Parents to School Day

Grade level Parent meetings

Parent Technology Meetings

Booster Club Meetings for various organizations

Informational meetings held concerning state mandated testing (STAAR and TELPAS) as well as graduation requirements.

IB (International Baccalaureate) meetings & planning with feeder pattern schools.

5. Provide a space for the PAC/PTO and parent volunteers to utilize for school and parent involvement related activities. Assist with PAC/PTO meetings and retain documentation.

Heights High School does provide a PTO storefront in an accessible location. Parents and other volunteers utilize this space for fundraising and to be accessible to students. The Title I Contact person assists the PTO/PAC with call outs, meeting arrangements, and supplies. In addition, that contact person retains all documentation of parent involvement.

6. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:
 - Lead Teachers receive training during the summer and during the year to head PLC meetings held at least once a week. These meetings ensure that teachers meet with other teachers who teach the same subject and/or grade level.
 - We will review curriculum goals and objectives regularly with PLC Leaders, Lead Teachers, and Teachers.
 - We will develop common assessments with peers across the district to determine student levels of achievement. We will disseminate data to teachers and students so that areas of need may be targeted.
 - The Shared Decision Making Committee will identify areas in which staff development is needed and assist with making such training available.
 - We will recruit, train, and retain highly effective teachers.
7. Hold parent-teacher conferences on a school-wide basis at least once a year.
 - Inform parents through call outs, flyers, and communication from the Principal. We continue to endeavor to utilize different methods of communication between teachers and parents.
 - Provide information to parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
8. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide the following:
 - After the third week of each six-week period, parents will receive progress reports. Every six weeks parents will be mailed student(s) report cards.
 - Parents have access to the HISD online Parent/Student Connect program which enables them to monitor daily assignments, grades, attendance, and can establish an alert program that will notify parents automatically when grades slip below one specified by the parents through the Gradespeed Program.
 - Parents may connect with teachers through the Gradespeed program or through teachers' HISD email address concerning student progress.
9. Heights High School provides parents with reasonable access to staff as follows:

The annual Curriculum Night will offer parents the opportunity to follow their child's schedule and meet with each teacher.

Parents are able to connect with teachers through HISD's Parent Connect Program as well as individual teacher web pages on the Heights High School website, HISD email, and by phone.

Grade Level Parent Meetings will be held annually. ESL parent and teacher meetings will be held annually.

Administrative meetings with parents and teachers will be held as requested.

Parents have opportunities to volunteer on campus through VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools), the PTO, and the Heights Booster Clubs.

Parents may arrange to visit and observe classrooms by contacting teachers and administrators.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The parents/guardians of Heights High School students will support student learning in the following ways:

Instill the importance of education in their children.
 Encourage a positive attitude for students toward school, teachers, administrators, staff, and peers.
 Monitor student progress and attendance.
 Make sure that homework and projects are completed in a timely manner.
 Promote positive use of students' extra-curricular time and activities.
 Communicate with school personnel regularly.
 Utilize the HISD Parent Connect website to access student grades, assignments, projects, and attendance on a regular basis.
 Stay informed about their children's education by reading notices and flyers promptly and regularly checking the Heights website (as is available) for information and school news.
 Attend Open House/Curriculum Night.
 Attend Parent Involvement afternoons.
 Attend PTO Meetings.
 Serve, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, district committees, school parent organizations and/or volunteer groups, other school support teams, etc.
 Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to their children's education.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Heights High School believes that parental involvement is a vital step in reaching the instructional objectives of our students. The home/school cooperative system will help each student arrive at his/her academic potential as well as develop responsibility and self-discipline. This combined effort of home and school assists the student in extending learning beyond the classroom and in improving classroom achievement.

The school has established such programs as the following to encourage strong parental involvement at a school wide level.

- Parents/Volunteers
- Title I Schoolwide Parent Compact
- PTO/Title I Parent Advisory Council
- PTO Storefront open
- SDM committee members
- School Curriculum Night/Open House
- Take Your Parents to School Day
- Grade Level Parent Meetings
- Orientation Parent Meetings
- ESL Parent Meetings
- School Community Projects/Partners in Education
- School Field Trips and Special Programs
- School Organizations/Clubs
- Parent meetings with the Special Education Department/ARDS
- Go Center – Full Time College Coordinator: parent meetings, field trips to colleges and universities.

ADOPTION

Heights High School will implement these and other activities that will encourage parental involvement through the Title I Program. All activities will be in compliance with the Houston Independent School District Parental Involvement policies and guidelines and the Texas Education Association. Parents will have an adequate opportunity to participate in all segments of parent involvement activities.

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the following:

- Parent involvement survey responses.
- PTO/PAC meetings (at least 4) during the school year.
- Meetings with parents of special population students such ESL, Special Education, and other At Risk groups.
- Meetings with parents of the Magnet program students.

Review by Parent Involvement Team
Review by Heights Leadership Team
Review by Heights SDMC

This policy was originally adopted by Heights High School on August 22, 2011 and it is reviewed annually to incorporate and reflect changes in programs and activities annually. This policy will be in effect for the school year 2020-2021. The school will distribute this policy to all parents in participating Title I, Part A schools in English. For questions, please contact Elizabeth Payne, Title I Contact person at 7138654400 or epayne@houstonisd.org.