



Young Women's College Preparatory Academy
Houston Independent School District
Katrena Brantley, Dean of Students- Tiffany Dewalt, Dean of Students
1906 Cleburne Houston, Texas 77004-4131
{713} 942-1441 • (713) 942-1448 (fax)



October 9, 2020

Subject: Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2020-2021

Good afternoon Parents /Guardians,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Young Women's College Preparatory Academy, thank you for allowing us to be your partners in facilitating and guiding your daughter's academic achievement. Enclosed please find information regarding parent involvement opportunities for the year.

Statement of Purpose

Young Women's College Preparatory Academy will strengthen the academic, social and economic foundation of our community, by assuring its students a high-quality education that prepares them for future learning. Parental Involvement is essential in obtaining the mission of our school. The parent and community support will help convey the importance of academic success for all students. By working collaboratively, we will build a better community throughout Houston.

Developing the Policy

Young Women's College Preparatory Academy will include parents in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title I Program and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The Site-Based Decision-Making Committee will include parents as vital stakeholders in the decision-making process. Parents will also provide input during PTO meetings as it pertains to the benefit of the student body as a whole.

Annual Meeting

Young Women's College Preparatory Academy will hold an annual meeting during the fall semester. At that meeting the Title I program will be described, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be distributed and reviewed, and opportunities for parental participation will be explained. We will also send out the power point via the campus and PTO website for the convenience of parents that cannot attend the meeting. Since the goal of Young Women's College Preparatory Academy is student success, the expectations for school performance, individual student assessments, and grade level curriculum will be provided in a format parents can understand. Parents will be advised that the effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Program will be evaluated annually and the policy will be revised to meet the needs of the students, school, parents, and community.

Building Capacity (YWCPA will):

- Provide assistance to parents in how to monitor a child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve student achievement.
- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement.
- Provide information in a format and language the parents understand.
- Provide necessary literacy training to parents.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities.
- Arrange (8) mandatory school meetings at a variety of times.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations in parental and family engagement activities.
- Educate campus faculty and staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value of contributions of parent/families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between the parents and the school.

- Shall provide parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum used, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and proficiency levels, and levels students are expected to meet in the form of the STAAR scores and End of Course exams.
- Shall provide assistance in understanding the state's academic content standards, the state's student achievement standards and the local assessment through the use of teachers, individual guidance, technology, and parent workshops.

Programs and the School Community

Annually, Young Women's College Preparatory Academy will assess the needs of the school community using a variety of tools including a survey or questionnaire. The findings will be used to revise the Title I program to meet the current needs. Training will be made available to address the needs of the school community. Parents are invited and encouraged to be active participants in the programs and activities of YWCPA.

Staff-Parent Communication

Young Women's College Preparatory Academy will communicate with parents on a regular basis. Important information will be provided in the student handbook, the home school agreement, and on the school website. We will also send home flyers with information detailing important upcoming events. Frequent notices about student performance and campus activities will be sent home with children, or provided by campus communication platform, e-mails, conferences, and virtual visits. All communication will be provided in a language and format the parents can understand. Parents are encouraged to contact the school or the child's teacher when questions or problems arise.

Parent-School Compact

The responsibilities of the school, parents, and children in increasing student learning and achievement are identified in our School-Parent Compact. According to the Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA), each school must share responsibility with parents for high student academic performance by developing a school-parent compact jointly with the parents. Parents will receive the compact from their child's school with a list of responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students will each have for helping students achieve their goals. Parents and teachers are strongly urged to discuss the compact together, and with the students. Periodically, parents of participating children are invited to review the compact and make suggestions for revisions.

Evaluation

The SDMC Committee will evaluate the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program. Resources that will include assessment data and surveys will be used to determine the needs and develop revised strategies for student success. Any changes to the Title I Program and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be developed and agreed upon with parent input and will be communicated to the parents in the district or school.

If the school wide program is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit parents' comments on the plan to the Department of External Funding and revise and plan as advised by the HISD Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Program Administrator and other District designees as advised.

If you would like to become involved with our Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) program for parent volunteers, we welcome and appreciate your participation. Please contact Keisha Robinson for more information at (713) 942-1441 or email at krbins8@houstonisd.org.

Sincerely,



Dr. April Williams, Principal