

Pershing Middle School
School-Parent-Family Engagement Policy
ESSA Section 1116 2021-2022

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Pershing Middle School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of the “Every Student Succeeds Act” (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school’s expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement several specific parental and family engagement activities.

Pershing Middle School understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- We have an open-door policy at Pershing Middle School which enables parents to visit classrooms and observe their scholar through pre-scheduled appointments.
- Parents are encouraged to participate in planning school-wide events intended to support students’ academic needs and involve parents in events that support those needs.
- Parents may volunteer for all school events related to academics and otherwise where and when allowed per District COVID policy.
- Parents and families are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision -making (SDMC) and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

1. Pershing Middle School shall convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents and participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school’s participation under this part, to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved.

• **Annual Title I Meetings**

September 14th and 21st, 2021 parents and community members will have the opportunity to virtually attend our Fall annual Title I meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the 14th and 10:30 a.m. on the 21st via Zoom. Topics discussed: Purpose of Title I Program, Purchases made so far out of Title I budget, School-wide Tutorial Schedule, Family Night Outs, and Volunteering.

- Meetings will be conducted by Dr. Shetzer and Ms. Graur (Title I Coordinator)
- Parents will be notified through the Pershing website www.houstonisd.org/pershing, Panda Newsletter sent weekly to all parents, social media accounts, and announcements made daily.

2. Pershing Middle School shall offer a flexible number of meetings such as meeting in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, childcare, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

- **Flexible Number of Meetings**

Pershing Middle School will offer a flexible number of engagement meetings at convenient times for families, such as meetings in the morning or evening (for which the school may use Title I funds to provide transportation, childcare, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement for in person meetings).

- Virtual Meetings: September 14th, September 21st, September 22nd, November 9th, November 16th,
- In Person Meetings: October 19th and January 13th

3. Pershing Middle School shall involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school-parent-family engagement policy and in the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b).

- **Parent Participation in PFE**

Parents will participate in developing and agree upon the PFE program and activities through our Shared Decision-Making Committee and Parent-Teacher Organization at the first meeting of September.

4. Pershing Middle School shall provide parents of participating children

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-Teacher Conferences are held weekly as needed during teachers' conference/planning times.

- **Parents with Frequent Progress**

Parents will receive report cards and progress reports from their student based on the district calendar dates.

- **Parent Days and Evenings at Pershing**

Activities that build capacity for parent involvement: Family Literacy Night, English as a Second Language Cultural Night, Science Fair, SDMC, Spring Carnival, PTO Meetings, and Parents Turn to Learn days with the principal.

Other Parental Supports

- Monitor and Check Parent Student Connect/PowerSchool Daily
- Volunteer at Pershing
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my child's education
- Monitor Attendance
- Promote positive use of my child's extracurricular time
- Stay informed about my child's education and communicating with the school
- Check Panda Newsletter Weekly

5. Pershing Middle School will submit any comments/concerns to the Harris County School District Superintendent's Office if the schoolwide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents.

Any comments/concerns can be emailed to the Director of Federal Programs, Melissa Garrison, at mgarrison@harrison.k12.ms.us or phone at 228-539-6500.

6. Parent Involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and ensure to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement:

- Provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The State's academic content standards
 - The State's student achievement standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
 - How to monitor their child's progress through OnTrack, Parent Student Connect/Powerschool, and The Hub
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child through Remind, Email Communication, and Parent Meetings.
- Materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training at literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
 - Literacy Night with Family and Friends
 - ESL Turn to Learn Night
 - 21st Century Parent Learning
- Educate school personal, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, 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 parents and the school. ○ Positive Dog Book Study
 - Social and Emotional Learning PLC's
 - Restorative Justice PLC's
 - Supporting EL's in the Science Classroom
 - Gardening Club with Parental/School Involvement Communication
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including after-school programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents to fully participate in the education of their children.

Pershing Middle School will offer parent workshops such as Literacy Night, ESL Turn to Learn Night, and other evenings on an as needed basis. We will continue to encourage our parents to use resources provided by the district.