



2018-2019

Wichita Falls ISD Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Statement of Purpose

The mission of Wichita Falls ISD is to prepare all students to become lifelong learners who are productive, responsible and participating members of society. In accomplishing this mission, we recognize the importance of the role that our parents/families play in developing and maintaining these partnerships. These essential partnerships are reflected and can be found referenced in local policy EHBD. Communication between the parents/families, schools and the community will expand and enhance learning opportunities for all stakeholders, thereby strengthening these equal partnerships.

All students will be expected to work toward mastering the state academic objectives or the Texas Essentials Knowledge & Skills objectives. WFISD recognizes that some students will need extra assistance to achieve their full potential. This extra assistance is available to all students through various educational services offered through the district as well as Title I. WFISD intends to include parents/families in all aspects of the Title I Program.

Parent Engagement in Developing Policy

The WFISD shall involve parents/families on district and campus level committees to development plans and processes for review and improvement of student academic achievement and campus performance. These committees shall include at least two parents of students currently enrolled in the district. WFISD will actively recruit volunteers for these committees. Committee selections will strive to produce a diverse group of stakeholders that represent an array of student populations served by the district. Special attention will be given to recruit parents/families of children served through a Title I program. Parents involved on these committees will be given opportunities to meet and conference at various times and locations during the day to accommodate the needs of all concerned parties. Efforts will also be made to

accommodate parents who speak languages other than English.

In addition, the District Action Committee will be comprised of parents, community members, administrators, teachers, and other staff members. This committee will meet annually to review, modify and approve the Parent Engagement policy for the upcoming school year.

Parent Engagement Activities to Improve Student Academic Achievement and School Performance

Parent Engagement activities will be hosted at both the campus and district level throughout the school year. Title I staff will assist schools in understanding the requirements of Title I, Part as well as support campuses in the planning of effective activities/programs as a means to help parents/families in improving academic achievement.

The district will provide assistance by including information regarding state academic standards, assessments, progress, content and curriculum to parents/families. WFISD will also promote and encourage staff development for employees on establishing effective, meaningful communication and relationships with parents as a means to increase academic achievement.

Building the School's and Parents' Capacity for Strong Parent Engagement

The WFISD will take measures to build capacity for a stronger Parent Engagement Program in a variety of ways.

In accordance with Title I regulations, WFISD Title I campuses will hold their own campus Title I meetings to discuss the guidelines and services offered through the Title I program and the district.

In addition, each campus will develop and annually update their Parent Engagement Policy and school compact. The Parent Engagement Policy will be review and approved by each campus's Site-Based Decision Making (SBDM) Committee which consist of at least two parent members as required per WFISD BQB (Local) policy. These site-base meetings will be scheduled at different times and locations to accommodate all parties. Notice of the meeting will be provided through various forms of communication to the parents in both English and Spanish (at least). If needed, a translator will be available to help with non-English speaking parents.

The school compact will also be reviewed in the same manner as the policy. As required, members of the campus SBDM Committee which include parents will be consulted in the design, implementation and approval of the compact. All campuses will provide parents/families with a copy of the compact detailing the responsibilities that teachers, parents/families, and students have in helping students accomplish their goals. Students and their parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact. They are also encouraged to sign that they are in agreement with the compact and return them to the school.

Campuses will inform parents/families of school activities through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. Newsletters, conferences, personal contacts, written notices, email, phone system (Parent Link), and WFISD website/other social media will be utilized to establish and maintain an open line of communication. As appropriate, notifications will be provided in languages other than English.

The district and campuses may use Title I funds to pay for any allowable, reasonable, necessary, and allocable expenses to enable parents to participate in appropriate school-related meetings and trainings. Staff development will include strategies to promote effective parent engagement activities and relationships.

Cross-Program Coordination of Parent Engagement Activities

Parent and Family Engagement strategies will be incorporated into WFISD's curriculum and programs through the District Improvement Plan which is created by the DAC. Parent Engagement will be a priority and will be aligned with the entire educational program(s). WFISD will coordinate with Title I, community stakeholders, and other departments in and out of the district to meet special needs (such as Head Start, Public Preschool, PAT, etc.).

Involving Parents in Activities of Title I Campuses

WFISD will use Title I funds to provide school-wide services to all students on the district's Title I campuses. Parents will be encouraged to participate in a variety of strategies as the district strives to develop and maintain an optimum learning environment for all students. Parents may contribute through volunteer programs such as (SBDM) site base decision meetings, PTA/PTO, as well as by creating a supportive home atmosphere. The community may participate through an array of activities that promote student success such as the WFISD Partner in Education (PIE) and mentoring programs. Campuses will be encouraged to develop and maintain specific parent and

family engagement activities which best suit the individual needs of the all stakeholders.

Evaluation

The district will evaluate the Parent Engagement Program by collecting data and surveys from all Title I campuses. The evaluation will include an assessment of how much parent engagement is increasing and if any barriers exist. The data collected will be annually reviewed and evaluated by the District Action Committee before approved as a means to assess the Parent Engagement Program. Results and updates of the program will also be shared with parents/families at the District's Annual Title I Public Meeting. Parents that attend this meeting will be given an opportunity to share their suggestions with the Parent Engagement Liaison.

Approve & Revised 10/4/18