



Watauga Elementary

TITLE I, PART A PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Pursuant to the Every Student Succeeds Act, Birdville Independent School District will:

1. Engage parents and families of participating children in a meaningful consultation to plan and implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in Title I, Part A schools.
2. Develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and families of participating children Birdville ISD's written parent and family engagement policy. This policy will be incorporated into the district's plan for Title I, Part A.
3. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support for Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
4. Assist parents of children served by Title I, Part A schools in understanding such topics as state academic standards and assessments, how to monitor a child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve their children's achievement.
5. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement at Title I, Part A schools.
6. With the assistance of parents, educate teachers, school leaders, and other personnel at Title I, Part A schools in the value and utility of parent contributions, 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.
7. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs that encourage and support parents at Title I, Part A schools.
8. Ensure that information related to Title I, Part A school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities are provided in a understandable and uniform format and in a language that parents can understand, to the extent practicable.
9. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Birdville ISD parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I, Part A schools. Birdville ISD will use the findings to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Birdville ISD Parent and Family Engagement Policy is to promote a highly effective working partnership among families and staff. Birdville ISD has adopted the policy to ensure that we provide parents and families with substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate as equal partners in the education of their children. Additionally, as per Section 1116 of Public Law 114-95, the district will support its campuses in their efforts to build capacities of the school staffs, as well as the capacities of parents, families, and community members, to work together as equal partners to succeed in improving achievement for all students.

The original policy was drafted by the Birdville ISD Parent Advisory Council (BPAC), presented to a representative group of parents, edited, made available to all parents for further review and comment, and finalized with consideration of additional input from parents. Each year, the policy content and opportunities for parent involvement is evaluated and revised as needed.

Goals

- Schools promote regular, two way communication between home and school
- Parents, families, educators, and community members assist in improving student achievement by supporting family involvement in the education of their children
- Schools provide a safe and open atmosphere for parents and families to visit the school their children attend and to actively encourage parent and family support and assistance for school programs
- Schools and staff develop and deliver timely information and training to parents, including language classes
- Schools respond to such barriers as language, culture, education levels and work schedules of parents and families that may limit opportunities to participate fully in the education of their children
- Parents and families support their children's learning at home and in school and serve as their children's advocate
- Schools disseminate information to parents on all required Title 1 notifications

Annual meeting

Each Title I, Part A campus will hold an annual parent meeting to educate parents about Title I funding and how it will be used to support the parent and family engagement. Birdville ISD will support the efforts of Title I, Part A schools by providing PowerPoint presentations, simultaneous translation equipment, communication tools, translators, childcare, and printing. These same district resources will be available to campuses to support a flexible number of meetings with parents throughout the school year. A primary goal of these meetings will be to establish parents as equal partners in their child's academic achievement.

Parents' Right to Know

Each Title I, Part A campus will provide parents with an annual notification that outlines the parents' right to know about the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct their child, as well as any paraprofessionals who provide services to the child.

Building Capacity for Parent-School Partnerships

Through the district's parent liaisons and staff, Birdville ISD will provide the following services to parents:

- Training for parents in understanding students' state and local assessment and screener results
- Other parent trainings based on identified needs and requests
- Links to external agency resources, as needed
- Parenting skills classes
- ESL classes
- Homework help training
- Translation services for homework
- Interpreter services for ARD, LPAC, PPCD evaluations, counseling, psychological evaluations, teacher/principal conferences with parents at Title I, Part A schools, district meetings, PTA, and others

To foster better collaboration with parents, Birdville ISD will also provide the following services to schools and district departments:

- Staff training regarding contributions parents make to their children's education
- Written translation services to schools and departments
- Communication tools and templates for promoting activities and services offered at Title I, Part A schools
- Other support as needed to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities

School-Parent Compacts

Each Title I, Part A campus will jointly develop and share with parents a school-parent compact. The school-parent compact outlines how parents, staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It also describes the necessary partnership that must develop between the Title I, Part A school and its families through regular two-way, meaningful communication. Each campus will undertake an annual collaborative review of its school-parent compact and make revisions as needed.

Among others, each Title I, Part A school has a responsibility to:

- Implement high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment
- Utilize relevant sections of the school-parent compact to guide parent-teacher conferences
- Provide frequent reports to parents on their child's progress
- Offer parents reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities
- Initiate and respond to parent communications

Parent responsibilities to support their child's learning include:

- Ensuring regular attendance
- Participating in decisions related to their child's education
- Monitoring positive use of extracurricular time, establishing healthy habits, and modeling literacy at home
- Completing an online volunteer registration form and volunteering on campus, whenever practical
- Initiating and responding to school communications

Parent Engagement Evaluation

Each spring, Birdville ISD and each Title I, Part A campus will assemble a team, including Title I parents, teachers, and staff members, to review the content and effectiveness of their family engagement policies and programs. Evaluation information will be collected through parent surveys that gauge levels of family engagement while identifying barriers to parent participation. Based on this input and through a collaborative consultation process, the district and each Title I, Part A campus will review the existing family engagement policy and make revisions as necessary.