San Diego Unified School District
Financial Planning and Development
Financial Planning, Monitoring and Accountability Department

Loma Portal Elementary School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
For a Non-Title I School
2024-2025

Loma Portal Elementary School (LPE) has developed a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy with input from parents and the School Site Council (SSC). The SSC reviews and revises the plan annually to ensure its accuracy and effectiveness. The SSC voted to approve this document.
The school distributes the policy to all LPE parents via email. Additionally, it is posted on our community bulletin board, added to our website and a paper copy is available in the office.
The policy describes the means for carrying out the following parental involvement requirements [*20 USC* 6318 Section 1118(a)-(f) inclusive].

Involvement of Parents
To involve parents at LPE, the following practices have been established:

- The school offers a flexible number of meetings for LPE parents, such as meetings in the morning or evening. Meetings are offered at various times of the day so as to be convenient to parents.
- The school involves parents of LPE students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's programs and the parental involvement policy.
    - Parents are involved in planning many of our programs. For example, parents work closely with teachers to provide reading support through Everyone a Reader. Our parents are highly involved in all aspects of the school. We have approximately 20 parents on campus volunteering every day.
- Information about our programs is emailed out to parents in a variety of methods, including Foundation e-blasts, school newsletters, and emails sent out by the Principal. In addition, teachers send home newsletters and most teachers have important information about all the programs which involve their class on their webpage. Important announcements are sent home via phone call and posted on the main page of our website and the "News" section of our website.
- The school provides parents of LPE students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Teachers explain the curriculum to parents at Back to School Night. At parent conferences teachers explain to parents how their student is progressing in relation to Common Core proficiency levels. All parents are invited to attend at least one conference per year. Parents of struggling students are strongly encouraged to attend two parent conferences a year.

- Loma Portal invites parents to a “Common Core” night annually. The purpose of this event is to discuss the standards and how our school teaches them to each student. Ways in which parents can support their child is also discussed.
- If requested by parents of LPE students, the school provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. Parents are invited to our Site Governance Meeting and School Site Council meeting which take place approximately once a month. In addition, we have established a Loma Portal English Language Advisory Council (ELAC) which meets on a regular basis.

Parent-School Compact

LPE distributes to parents of LPE students a school-parent compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the State’s high academic standards including:

- The school’s responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
- The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children’s learning
- The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child’s class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities

The Parent-School Compact was developed by the Principal and School Site Council. It is reviewed and revised every year, then sent out to parents.

Building Capacity for Involvement

LPE engages parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices.

- The school provides LPE parents with assistance in understanding the State’s academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.
- The school provides LPE parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their child's achievement. Teachers meet with individual parents as needed to suggest ways to support students at home. In addition, the school hosts several parent meetings a year which explain academic expectations to parents and suggest ways of supporting students at home.
- Student voice and leadership is a priority. Awards based on exhibiting good character are distributed weekly and our school participates in character education and social/emotional well-being curriculum.
- With the assistance of LPE parents, the school educates staff members about the value of parent contributions, and in how to work with parents as equal partners. Our school has an extremely high level of parent participation. Parents are an integral part of our school.

- The school coordinates and integrates the LPE parental involvement program with other programs, and conducts other activities to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. We have a high level of parent participation in the classroom. Almost all of our parents participate in school events from volunteering in the classroom, attending special events, and going on field trips. We also host meetings designed to educate parents in ways to support their child's education.
- The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to LPE parents in a format and language that the parents understand.
- The school provides support for parental involvement activities requested by LPE parents. Parents frequently suggest activities and programs for the school. Some of these suggestions are taken to the Site Governance Committee, some are taken to the School Site Council and some are presented to the LPE Foundation. Many of the programs and activities we offer at our school were originally suggested by parents.

Accessibility

LPE provides opportunities for the participation of all LPE parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand. We send out information in a variety of formats in order to reach as many parents as possible. These include telephone calls, emails, paper newsletters and flyers, announcements on the marquee, announcements via the P.A. system, and website notices. When we have parents who do not understand English we provide translated material or we engage a translator for meetings.