

Harding Street Elementary School

Title I School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024

Harding Street Elementary has developed a written Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy with input from Title I parents and agreed upon by Title I parents. The Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy was jointly developed and reviewed by parents, teachers, and staff by evaluating the policy and getting feedback about how to refine the policy. The policy was reviewed and approved by the School Site Council on November 8, 2023. The school will notify all parents by posting the policy on the Harding website in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent possible, in language parents understand.

This policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family requirements:

Section I: Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

To involve parents in the Title I program at Harding ES, the following practices have been established:

- The school convenes an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to inform parents and family members of Title I students about Title I requirements, the school's involvement in the program, and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program.
 - We hold two annual Title I meetings in the Fall semester one at Kindergarten Orientation and the other at Back-to-School Night. Parents are invited to attend the meetings which we hold in the auditorium. During the presentation we outline the following:
 - What is the Title I program?
 - Overview of the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)
 - Budget 7S046 and 7E046
 - School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
 - Opportunities for Parent and Family Engagement
- The school offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents, such as meetings in the morning or evening. We offer hybrid meetings on a range of topics.
- The school involves parents of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the School Plan for Student Achievement. Parents are informed of opportunities to participate in ELAC and SSC meetings in order to provide feedback.
- The school provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs. Title I meetings are held at least twice a year in order to keep parents informed.
- The school provides parents of Title I students with a description and an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels students are expected to meet with the standards. Parents learn about these via Back to School Night and parent workshops covering such

topics as assessments, standardized tests, standards, and academic programs provided at the school site.

- If requested by parents of Title I students, the school provides opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children, and to respond to any such suggestions as soon as possible. This happens throughout the school year through parent-teacher conferences, and other communications by the teacher.
- If the School Plan for Student Achievement is not satisfactory to Title I parents, the reasons will be shared in this policy.

Section II: Building Capacity for Involvement

Harding St. ES engages Title I parents and family members in meaningful interactions with the school to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school to improve student achievement. 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 Title I parents with assistance in understanding the State's academic content standards, state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. Parents are invited to attend monthly parent workshops covering these topics.
- The school provides Title I parents and family members with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement, paying special attention to support for foster parents. Parents are invited to attend monthly parent workshops covering these topics.
- With the assistance of Title I parents, the school educates teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, assistant principals and other school leaders, and other staff about the value and utility of the contributions of parents and family members, and about how to reach out to, and communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to build ties between parents and the school. Professional development is provided to teachers on how to build partnerships with families.
- The school coordinates and integrates the Title I parent and family engagement program with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as Parent and Family Centers, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in our Parent Center and in the classrooms.
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- The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents and family members in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that they understand. Information is disseminated via Blackboard Connect, email, text messaging, and teacher communication platforms.
- The school provides support for parent and family involvement activities requested by Title I parents.

Section III. Accessibility

Harding St. ES provides opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of all Title I parents and family members, including parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand. Information is disseminated via Blackboard Connect, email, text messaging, and teacher communication platforms.

Section IV: Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Harding St. ES distributes to parents of Title I students a School-Parent Compact. **It is attached to this policy.** The Compact, which has been jointly developed with parents and approved by them, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. ELAC and SSC were presented with the information and asked to provide feedback and suggestions.

The Compact describes specific ways the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve California's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

- The school's responsibility is to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables children to meet California's Common Core academic standards in all content areas, and ELD standards for our Emergent Bilinguals.
- The ways that parents can volunteer in their child's classroom
- The ways that parents can participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
- The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, the following:
 - annual parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement
 - frequent reports to parents on student progress

- reasonable access to staff
- communication regarding opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class and opportunities to observe classroom activities
- ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent possible, in a language that family members can understand

This policy and compact was adopted by Harding St. ES on November 8, 2023 and will be in effect for the entire school year. This policy can be amended each year and parents can give input to change the policy when ELAC, SSC, and Coffee with the Principal meet. It has been distributed to all parents on November 15, 2023 and is made available to the local community on the School website. This policy is a companion document to the School Plan for Student Achievement. If there are concerns about the School Plan for Student Achievement, parents can submit the concerns to Norma Alvarez, Principal. The school principal will submit the comments with the School Plan to the Federal and State Education Programs Office for submission to the state.

Lastly, there is a LAUSD Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy that is sent to parents each year and applies to all parents at Title I schools. It is amended periodically to meet the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

