



Driscoll

Independent School District

*Simply the Best...para los niños*

## SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY DRISCOLL ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL 2023-2024

Driscoll Elementary and 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:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- Parents and families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in their child's education.

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116:

### **A. ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will hold an Annual Title I Meeting for all parents across the district within the months of August and September. Meetings will be held in the AM and PM to accommodate parent schedules.

### **B. FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will offer a flexible number of parent engagement meetings at convenient times for families, such as meetings in the morning or evening.

### **C. JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will meet with parents and stakeholders at the beginning of the year. During this meeting, parents will review the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan for any recommendations or modifications. They will also be informed of their parental right to be involved in the planning and development of the plan through meetings, surveys, and questionnaires. If the program plan is not satisfactory to parents, they may submit comments on the plan to the school administrator. The plan will be available to students at the beginning of each school year, posted to the school's website, and disseminated during Quarter 1 Parent/Teacher conferences.

### **D. COMMUNICATION**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will present the Parent and Family Engagement Policy to parents and will post the policy on the campus website page once the policy has been approved. Parents will be involved in planning, reviewing and improving the policy through a yearly review. All parents will have the opportunity to participate in this review.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be posted on the district's website at the beginning of each year and discussed at Quarter 1 parent-teacher conferences. It will also be available during family (PIMA) events.

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will use various communication avenues, including student folders, social media, phone calls, parent conferences, parent/community events, the School Messenger automated phone system, and the district website, to keep parents informed of information related to school and parent programs, students' expected proficiency levels, meetings, and other activities.

## **E. DISSENSION PROCESS**

During the mandatory Quarter 1 Parent/Teacher conferences, teachers will share the Parent Family Engagement policy with parents. Should parents have any questions/comments/concerns, they may submit those to the campus principal or directly to the Driscoll Independent School District superintendent.

*Any comments/concerns received should be sent to the Superintendent, Dr. Cynthia M. Garcia, at [cgarcia@driscollisd.us](mailto:cgarcia@driscollisd.us) or by phone at 361.387.7349.*

## **F. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standard and how the plan is used, reviewed, and updated. Annual Title I School-wide parent meetings will be held during the months of August and September to review and discuss any needed changes to the school compact. In the spring of each year, Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will distribute a parent/community/staff and student survey to gather data about the campus's school-parent compact, engagement activities, school culture, academic programs and more. Data gathered from this survey will drive decisions for the upcoming year. Results from the annual survey will be shared with stakeholders during the June/July Board of Trustees meeting.

## **G. BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective participation of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement. Each school year, the following Parent and Family Engagement meeting opportunities will be available to provide assistance to parents of children served by the school:

- Campus Title I Meeting – details about Title I services, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the school compacts will be discussed and attendees will be asked to provide feedback.
- State Testing - the Campus Testing Coordinator will provide a brief overview for parents of the required state assessments, including information related to
  - the state's academic content standards
  - the state's student academic achievement standards
  - the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - the requirements of Title I
  - how to monitor their child's progress, and
  - how to work with educators
- Site-based Decision-Making Team meetings will be held to include parents in the development of the district and campus improvement plans.
- English Learner parent and family nights will be planned throughout the year, and translators will be available at the campus level for parents as needed.
- Dyslexia and Autism parent and family nights and workshops are scheduled at the district level to be offered and will provide parents with materials and resources to ensure student success.
- Parents are provided opportunities to attend select training and conferences to increase their knowledge and awareness through the coordination of Federal, State, and local programs.

## **H. ACCESSIBILITY**

Driscoll Elementary and Middle School will ask parents to work within the community to garner support for events such as family nights, parent workshops, parent conferences, and various other parent events. Surveys will be sent out to parents to gather input from parents regarding topics of need and to identify barriers to parent participation. Parent workshops will be held as needed (interpreters will be available to assist with non-English speaking parents and/or parents with disabilities) to encourage parental involvement in academia. Family and community members will be made aware of the training sessions through resources such as letters, social media, and the school website. DISD will maintain a Parent Portal for parents to access student grades and attendance at any time. Driscoll Elementary and Middle School maintains normal business hours and welcomes feedback through personal visits, conferences, emails, and phone calls. Please note that appointments are preferred so that parents may be offered our full attention.

## **I. STATEWIDE INITIATIVE**

Texas has established a Parent and Family Engagement Initiative hosted by the Region 16 Education Service Center. The website is:

<https://www.esc16.net/page/title1swi.home>.