

Lindsay ISD  
Parent and Family Engagement Policy  
2017-2018

**Parental Involvement Policy Expectations**

The Title I Parental Involvement section of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires each Title I school to jointly develop with and distribute to parents a written parental involvement policy. The purpose of Title I is to provide activities and services which support students in meeting the state's academic standards.

- Lindsay ISD will work to ensure that school level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1112 of the ESEA and each include as a component a school-parent compact.
- The school will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and school.
- The school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- The school will submit any parent comments regarding the targeted Title I program with the school submits the plan to the school district.
- The school in collaboration with the parents will build a capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. The school will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as the parents may request.
- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition: Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful, communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring – (a) the parents plan an integral role in assisting their child's learning;(b)that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in assisting their child's education at school; (c) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; (d) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1112 of the ESEA.

## **Statement of Purpose**

Lindsay ISD is committed to providing quality education for every child in our district. To this end, we desire to establish partnerships with parents and the community. We believe that everyone gains if the school and homework together to promote high levels of achievement by our children. Neither segment can do this task alone. Parents play an extremely important role as their child's first teacher. When supporting their children and the school, the parent is providing the foundation that is necessary for their child's success.

We offer each student an educational learning environment that integrates learning across all subject areas. Students are expected to work toward mastering the learning objectives that have been established by the state curriculum (**Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills**). We recognize that some students will need extra assistance to achieve their full potential. This extra assistance is available through our Targeted Title Program. **A Title I School receives federal assistance to supplement and expand the required curriculum and services as mandated by the Texas Education Agency. Students are identified on by using various sources of information to determine are eligibility this extra assistance if he/she meets the selection criteria.**

This parental involvement policy is developed to support the partnership between the parent and the school. Input from both parents and staff is represented in the policy, and is available to all parents with children attending Lindsay Independent School District.

### **Parent and Community Input in Policy Development**

Our **Parent Advisory Council (PAC)** is comprised of parents, community members and staff members. They have the responsibility of annually reviewing and revising this policy. Any changes are shared with the campus team to receive input from this group. The campus team consists of parents, community and business representatives, teachers and administrators. They meet at least three times each year.

The district actively recruits volunteers for each of these committees through various forms of publicity. Committee selections provide a diverse group of stakeholders that is representative of the community.

Meetings are held at times and locations convenient to all members. If a translator is needed, one will be provided.

### **Parent Involvement Activities to Improve Achievement and School Performance**

One of the functions of the PAC and campus Team will be to identify means for the district to provide assistance and support for the campuses to create effective parent involvement. The administration will assist schools in understanding the requirements of Title I, Part A and in planning for effective programs to assist parents in improving academic achievement.

Campus assistance may also consist of the distribution of informational handouts which explain state academic standards, assessments and curriculum. The district will promote and encourage staff development on establishing effective relationships with parents as a means to increase academic achievement.

### **Building Capacities for Strong Parent Involvement**

The district will support a variety of parental involvement strategies as it strives to develop and maintain an optimum learning environment.

#### **Annual Parent Meeting**

An annual meeting is held to review Title I guidelines and services provided by the district. Copies of the current Parent Involvement Policy are available at the meeting. Parents are encouraged to become involved in revising and updating the policy as necessary, and parent volunteers are invited to become members of the PAC and the District and Campus Teams. The meetings are held at a convenient time and location. Notices of the meetings are published in *The Knight News* and is posted on the district's website. If necessary, a translator will be available.

#### **Home/School Compact**

In accordance with Title I regulations, each campus has developed a home/school compact which is reviewed annually. The compacts explain how students, parents and staff share responsibility for student performance and success, and will enable them to do so. Each Campus Team is responsible for reviewing and providing revisions as needed. All parents are given a copy of the compacts at the annual Parent-Teacher Conference Day which is held on the Wednesday after the first grading period. Teachers, parents and students are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact. They are also encouraged to sign that they have received a copy of the compact.

#### **Staff/Parent Communication**

Parents are informed of school activities through a variety of different means of communication throughout the school year. Newsletters, conferences, notices on the district's website, articles in the local newspaper, personal contacts and written notices are used to establish and maintain an open line of communication. Staff development includes strategies to promote effective parent involvement activities.

#### **Evaluation**

A meeting is held annually where parents are encouraged to review and evaluate all aspects of the parent involvement policy. These suggestions are collected and presented to the PAC to be incorporated into the policy. Other information made available are results of the annual parent survey, student survey and any other pertinent findings. The PAC makes revisions to the policy as needed.

#### **Campus Initiated Communication and Meetings**

1. Meet the Teacher Night
2. Campuses notify parents of their children's eligibility for special programs and educational services.
3. At the parent conference at the beginning of school, the campus Compacts, an agreement between parents, teachers and students to foster academic success, will be reviewed. Parents will be asked to sign the document with the understanding that parent's signatures are voluntary.

4. Elementary campus has a publication that is sent periodically to parents whose children attend Lindsay Elementary School.
5. Active web site and Facebook pages. School Messenger automated calling system that notifies of events, activities, school closings, etc.
5. Progress reports are sent to parents after the third Friday of each grading period.
6. Report cards are issued at the end of each six weeks grading period.
7. Teachers are available for conferences with parents. These may be scheduled by calling the office of the appropriate school.
8. At the first meeting of the Lindsay Parent Teacher Committee, parents will be provided an opportunity to ask questions about any of the district's programs for its students.
9. All students identified for Title I services will have a scheduled parent/teacher conference at the conclusion of the first six weeks grading period.

The following are potential ways that parents may be engaged with LISD. By working together we will ensure that our students are successful! Together we can not fail!

1. Read and discuss the student handbook with your child prior to signing and returning to school.
2. Emphasize with your child the importance of education and encourage them to participate in school activities
3. Stay informed about your child's activities by attending parent meetings. You can also stay informed through the school district's web site and through the district FaceBook page. Ensure that you are on the district's automated call system. The system is yet another way to stay informed.
4. Be accessible to the school by making sure that current contact information is updated.
5. Learn about the school's curriculum, student support services, and activities offered by the district.
6. Become familiar with the academic program and review teaching materials, textbooks, and other instructional aids.
7. Examine tests and other assignments that your child brings home.
8. Monitor your child's progress and contact teachers, the counselor, or the principal as needed.
9. Volunteer at school
10. Participate in parent organizations ranging from booster clubs to committees that assist the Board of Trustees in formulating education goals and objectives.
11. Familiarize yourself with federally funded programs such as Title I that provide important educational support services for the school.
12. Attend school board meetings