



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: Parent & Family Engagement Policy

SUBMITTED BY: Adriana P. Ramirez **OF:** Federal & State Programs

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: October 11, 2023

INFORMATIONAL REPORT:

To present the 2022-2023 District Parent Camp; Family Engagement (PFE) Policy adopted on August 18, 2023, which was developed jointly with, and agreed on with Parents. The PFE policy establishes the expectations for parent engagement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent engagement activities throughout the year in order to support student academic achievement.



United Independent School District 2023-2024 Parent and Family Engagement Policy

ESSA Section 1116

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each Local Educational Agency (LEA or school district) that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116 (district wide parent and family engagement policy) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations for parent engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent engagement activities, and is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the State Educational Agency (SEA).

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Each district in its District-wide Parent and family engagement policy must establish the district's expectations for parent and family engagement. Section 1116 (a)(2) ESSA.

United Independent School District (UISD) agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- United Independent School District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1116 (2)(A) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1116, United Independent School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1116 of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116 of the ESSA.



- United Independent School District will incorporate this district wide parent and family engagement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1116 of the ESSA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, United Independent School District and its schools 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 required under section 1116 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- United Independent School District will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- United Independent School District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition: Parental engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring: (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in 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 1116 of the ESSA.
- United Independent School District will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and available resources of the Title I Statewide School Support and Family and Community Engagement.



PART II. PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING THE POLICY

United Independent School District receives Title I, Part A funds. Our goal is to plan and implement effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Therefore, United Independent School District will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy.

- The policy shall be incorporated into the local educational agency's plan developed under section 1112 (District Improvement Plan, DIP),
- The policy will establish the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement
- The policy will be developed, reviewed, and revised, with parents and family members of participating children, on a yearly basis
- The policy will be distributed and explained, with the assistance of parents, to parents and family members of participating children in the beginning of school year

United Independent School District will: involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan (DIP) under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).

- The District Improvement Plan will be developed, reviewed, and revised, with parents and family members of participating children, on a yearly basis

United Independent School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Campus visits by Federal Programs personnel from the district level to serve in an advisory capacity to Title I campuses
- A district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs
- A district meeting of parents/caregivers, community members and campus personnel to provide feedback and input on campus plans and policies



United Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parental involvement plan:

- Actively recruit parents/caregivers to participate in parent advisory capacity
- Schedule meetings at convenient times and locations to participate in a comprehensive review of policy and programs for parent involvement
- Establish a task force to implement parent involvement activities and initiatives
- Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning, evening, or virtually as well as provide transportation, child care, or home visits, as requested
- Facilitate communication between parents/caregivers and Title I campuses

Part III: ANNUAL MEETINGS FOR TITLE I PARENTS

United Independent School District uses Title I funds to provide school-wide services for all students enrolled in Title I campuses. Title I campuses will hold at least two meetings, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's Title I participation and their right to be involved. Copies of the district's/campus's current Parent Involvement Policy and campus designed Parent-Student Compact will be distributed at the meeting. All documents will be provided in English and in Spanish. Translators will be available to help with non-English speaking parents/caregivers.

United Independent School District will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.



The district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools,

- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents
- Arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home/virtual conferences with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children

PART IV. MATCHING PARENT INVOLVEMENT TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

United Independent School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities:

The school/district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- 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
- how to work with educators

The United Independent School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with the following other programs: Head Start, Preschool Programs, Family Literacy Programs, English Language Classes, Parenting Partners Program, Family Matters Resource Center (FMRC) and 21st Century Community Learning Centers.



- Each campus will have parent representation at every UCOP Meeting (United Council of Parents) and Parent Learning Summit to be conducted in a hybrid platform for the 2023-2024 school year
- Parenting Partners Seminars and Family Meals Challenge
- ESL/GED/Citizenship Classes at the Family Matters Resource Center at various times of the day and year.
- Offer various services and classes (i.e. Parenting Skills and Child Development Training, Job Training, Enrichment Child Care Services, and assistance with basic economic needs)
- Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as in the morning, evening, or virtually as well as provide transportation, child care, or home visits, as requested
- Capacity building activities and trainings (i.e. Literacy Night, Math and Science Camp such as STEM, and Homework Help) will be provided to parents and families to increase academic achievement through district-wide and campus efforts
- Offer Parent Engagement to parents who participate in the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Part V. STAFF/PARENT COMMUNICATION

With the assistance of its Title I schools, the district will educate its teachers, principals and other staff with the assistance of parents on how to reach out to, communicate with, work with parents as equal partners, the value and contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools through the suggested formats:

- Campus PLCs focusing on parent and family engagement
- Yearly Professional development by Federal programs personnel
- Parenting Partners Curriculum Training

The school/district will take the following actions to ensure the Title I information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating



children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Parent-Teacher conferences (in elementary schools at least annually)
- Translators provided at the campus and district level for Spanish speaking parents
- District phone call out system (Parent Square) set up in English and Spanish based upon the primary language identified for the home
- Title I information will be provided in both English and Spanish
- District/Campus websites
- Social Media platforms
- PSAs
- School Marquees
- Personal Phone calls

Part VI. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents a School-Parent Compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This compact will be provided in both English and Spanish by each Title I campus and parent/campus/student signature will remain on file for easy access. The parent compact will be reviewed yearly for updates and revisions.

Part VII. EVALUATION

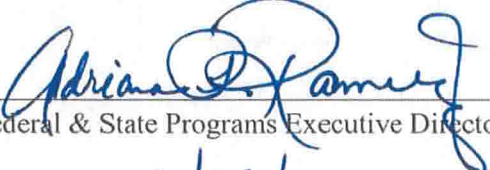
United Independent School District will take action to conduct, with Federal Programs personnel from the district level and parents of participating children, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The school district will share the findings of the evaluation on a yearly basis and will use the information about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary and with the involvement of parents, its parental involvement policies.



PART VIII. ADOPTION

This District-wide parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A Programs, as evidenced by United Independent School District.

This policy was reviewed at the end of the previous academic year and revised at the beginning of this year. It was adopted by the United Independent School District on August 18, 2023 and will be in effect for the school year 2023-2024. United Independent School District will distribute and explain this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 29, 2023.


Federal & State Programs Executive Director

8/18/23
Date


Family & Community Engagement Coordinator

8/18/23
Date