

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY FOR ANSON JONES MS NORTHSIDE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

If students are to be successful, their parents or guardians must be actively involved in their education. AJMS developed this policy to describe how we involve parents in the development of this policy and the School-Parent-Student Compact; to help parents to help their children achieve in school; and to make sure parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities and parents of migratory students can participate in their children's education. This policy was developed jointly, and reviewed annually, with parents and the Parental and Family Engagement Committee, Campus Leaders as well as the AJMS Department Coordinators.

School-Parent Compact - The School-Parent-Student compact explains how school staff and parents will share the responsibility for each student's academic success. The compact was developed jointly with parents and the Parent and Family Engagement Committee, Campus Leadership Team, and AJMS Department Coordinators.

Annual Title I Meeting - Each year we invite parents to an Annual Title I Meeting. Notice is sent to every parent through our newsletter, marquee, and call-out system. Meetings are held on several different days and times, and parents have a choice of which to attend. At the meetings we discuss Title I law and requirements, the rights of parents and students, benefits of programs offered, and other topics. We help the parents to attend these meetings by providing multiple sessions at various times.

Policy Involvement - Parents can be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including contributing to the review of this Parent and Family Engagement Policy, the School-Parent-Student Compact, and School Improvement Plan. If the School Improvement Plan is not satisfactory to parents, their comments will be forwarded to the district office. Parents may serve as members or provide input to the Parent and Family Engagement Committee, Title I Advisory Council, and other district/campus committees. We help the parents to attend these meetings by providing multiple sessions at various times.

Program Involvement - Throughout the year we give parents timely information during our PTA meetings, conferences, academic nights, STAAR nights, and parent orientations. We describe our curriculum and standards, share our expectations for students, explain how student performance is measured, and how to monitor student progress. We explain how each individual child and our school as a whole is doing on state tests and other measures of performance. Through the Parent and Family Engagement Committee, Title I Advisory Council, and other district/campus committees we offer opportunities to respond to parent suggestions, share experiences and concerns, and participate in decisions concerning services and programs offered at our school.

Building Capacity for Parent and Family Engagement - Activities to build parental engagement are described throughout this policy. It is part of our role to teach parents how to help their children learn and how to be involved in decision-making about the education of their children. We will also provide other reasonable support for parental engagement activities as requested.

Parent Training - Training and materials are provided during PTA meetings, academic nights, STAAR nights, and parent orientation. These presentations share information with parents to help them work with their children to improve academic achievement.

Our school strives to coordinate and integrate parental engagement activities among the different programs available on our campus. Shared parental engagement activities are sponsored for Title I schools such as Family Literacy Program, Family Involvement Programs, Families and Schools Together Program (FAST), Head Start, Migrant Education Program, Title III Bilingual/ESL, and Pre-K 4 SA.

The development of school-business partnerships that include activities for parents is encouraged. Community-based organizations and businesses are given information about opportunities for working with parents.

Staff Training - Training is also given to teachers and other staff members. All school staff views the District Parent and Family Engagement Video which emphasizes the importance of parents as partners and the building of ties between home and school. When possible, parents are involved in the development of this training.

Accessibility - Participation and involvement of all parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance, school and parent programs, meetings and other opportunities for participation is sent home in the home language whenever possible. Some of the standard information sent home in Spanish includes this policy, School-Parent-Student Compact, announcements, newsletters, report cards, school profiles, and student test results. For parents whose home language is other than English or Spanish, we use appropriate district resources. For parents of migrant students, we use appropriate district resources. Interpreters for the deaf and other adaptations are provided whenever needed. We ensure the ability of parents with disabilities to participate by providing handicapped access to classrooms and buildings where meetings are held.

Date Reviewed/Evaluated: March 22, 2017

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This policy complies with the Northside Independent School District's policies for parental involvement.

EHBD (Legal) and EHBD (Local)

