

West Elementary

Title I Campus Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2023-2024

Our Vision

West Elementary will be a place where parents, teachers, community members, and students will work together to create a positive, safe, and secure environment that will foster a community of life-long learners. Students will be encouraged to take responsibility for their actions and their actions and their learning. Teachers will use hands-on, real-life problem-solving experiences in the classroom to encourage critical thinking and to develop productive citizens. The uniqueness of each individual will be recognized and valued in order to help each child maximize his potential.

Our Mission

We, the faculty of West Elementary, are committed to working with students, parents, and community to meet the needs of our students.

We are Dedicated to Developing Learners Who are:

- Enthusiastic about learning
- Responsible, productive members of the community who are able to work with a spirit of cooperation
- Independent life-long learners
- Problem-solvers
- Respectful of self and others

At West Elementary, We Believe...

- All children can learn
- Children have a right to a safe, positive, nurturing learning environment
- Real-life, problem-solving, hands-on experiences constitute the core of quality learning
- The uniqueness of the individual must be respected
- Optimum learning is dependent upon communication and a sense of partnership among students, parents, community, and school.

We believe that parents and families are essential for students to have the best education. The following policy lists ways for us to help students have the education they deserve. Our school receives federal funds under the Title I, Part A of the *Every Student Succeed Act* which helps students. This written *parental and family engagement policy is required by Title I, Part A, Section by 1118 of the Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA)*. Even though it is required, we believe you deserve to know how we will help you get the best education for your child.

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Title I Annual Meeting

This year by September 30th, we will have a Title I meeting for parents. One will be held in the morning and one in the evening. We will talk about the benefits of receiving Title I money and talk about parents' rights, parent and family engagement activities, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policies and the School-Parent Compact as well as answer your questions about Title I.

Parent Meetings and Information

In order to help students get the best education, we know that you need information. We will offer meetings at different times and days throughout the school year. This year, some meetings may be held through computer and phone apps like Zoom and others in-person. Parent and family meetings will include information on curriculum, how to help students with learning at home in the areas of reading, math and science. Also, we will offer help on how to use the Parent Self-Serve to check your student's progress and use other school communication apps. We will host events to build strong school and community relationships. As appropriate and health conditions allow, we will provide transportation and childcare. Information will be provided in multiple languages.

We can provide information and resources about other district and community partnerships that help families through our family resource center. Please contact Carolyn Spahr, Title I Family Engagement Liaison for help or information at 682-867-0101 or by email at cspahr@aisd.net .

Decision Making Opportunities

Parents are welcome to take part in the Family Engagement Team (FET) or Site-based Decision Making Committee (SBDM) to help plan, review, and improve family engagement and campus improvement plans. The FET is responsible for the joint development of the school wide plan for family engagement events that include parent education, academic and community events. The SBDM is responsible for joint development of the campus improvement plan and other site-based decisions. The Title I District Parent Advisory Committee is another opportunity for parents to take part in decision making by giving input and reviewing the Title I family engagement policy and survey information.

Together with parents, we develop a school-parent-student compact that outlines how parents, the entire staff and students will share the responsibilities for improved student learning and the way the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students reach the State's high standards. If you are interested in serving on a committee please contact Carolyn Spahr, Title I Family Engagement Liaison for help or information at 682-867-0101 or by email at cspahr@aisd.net .

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Communication

Communication is everything to helping students get the best education. Parents and family members will be provided timely information. We use the following ways to share information: Flyers, class apps, Facebook, school website, In Touch, marquee, personal phone calls and video conferencing.

You can reach us at 682-867-0100.

Information is provided, to the extent possible, in multiple languages and in a language that parents can understand.

Every year, we develop a Campus Improvement Plan. The plan helps us keep focused on what students need to learn to be successful in their grade level. Parents may review the Campus Improvement Plan (CIP). A copy of the CIP may be requested through the school principal. If the CIP is not satisfactory to the parents, comments should be submitted to the principal. If the CIP is still not satisfactory after meeting with the principal, comments can be submitted to the school's area superintendent.

Academic Achievement

We will host meetings, at the beginning of the year, to help you understand the curriculum, what types of tests we use to determine if your student is making progress. We will also hold meetings to explain the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.

You may ask for a parent-teacher meeting with your child's teacher. We want you to participate in decisions relating to the education of your child and we value your input. As appropriate, you may visit the class. Your child's teachers will regularly send individual student performance information through progress reports and report cards. Arlington ISD sends out report cards every six-weeks. Additionally, we can talk about your students' learning progress or any concerns through emails, class apps, phone calls, etc. We will provide information about how your child performed on the State assessment (STARR) in at least math, language arts and reading for third through twelfth grade. Pre-kindergarten through second grade will report progress through the Standards Based Report Card. Additionally, other grade appropriate assessments are used in Pre-kindergarten through second grade to monitor student learning in reading and math. Your child's teacher can talk with you about the assessments.

Meetings, trainings, and conferences will be held through video apps or in-person as determined by current community health recommendations. Appointments are available for in-person meetings.

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Training

Our school district provides training to teachers, support staff, principals and other school leaders on the importance of family engagement and how to work with parents as equal partners. You may give input about the type of professional development trainings you would like to see through the FET, SBDM, or Title I Parent Advisory Committee. Please ask Carolyn Spahr, Family Engagement Liaison about attending or participating in one of these committees.