

HUNTSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Huntsville ISD believes every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Huntsville ISD will work together to establish effective programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family in all of its campuses with Title I, Part A programs. The district will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and families with limited English proficiency, parents and families with disabilities, and parents and families of migratory children. Parent/family information and school reports will be provided in an understandable and uniform format, and, to the extent possible, in a language parents/families understand.

Huntsville ISD will publish the Student Assessment Testing Calendar on the district website and calendar. Those students that need extra assistance will have access to programs that will help them reach these goals such as: after school programs, in school tutorials and interventions.

Huntsville ISD will make every effort to include parents/families in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title I, Part A Program and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The school-parent compact at each Title I, Part A campus will describe the responsibilities of key stakeholders and useful channels of communication. The goal of our parent and family engagement program throughout the district is to improve parent, family and community partnerships in an environment that promotes trust through effective communication. Paper copies of any information will be made available upon request.

DEVELOPING THE POLICY/ENGAGEMENT OF PARENTS AND FAMILIES

The district will work with its district advisory committee consisting of nine parent/family members, six community members, twenty five teachers and staff, and eight principals or administrators to revise the HISD Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The parent/family volunteers will represent the diversity of the student population, and one or more parents/family members on the advisory committee will have children participating in a Title I program. The advisory committee will convene at a time and place convenient to all its members at least three times a year.

Additionally, Huntsville ISD will incorporate the district parent and family engagement policy into its district improvement plan. The advisory committee will also provide input regarding the development and revision of the district improvement plan.

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BUILDING CAPACITY

Huntsville ISD will, with the assistance of its campuses, provide support to parents/families of children served by the school district in understanding topics such as the following:

- The state and local academic content standards
- The state and local student academic achievement standards
- The state and local academic assessments

COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS

Huntsville ISD will develop a partnership with Walker County Head Start. Services will be coordinated to assist the transition from pre-school to elementary school.

Annually Huntsville ISD will assess the needs of the parents/families and children in the school community using a variety of tools: Gifted and Talented Survey, Bilingual/ESL Survey, Child Find, DAC Needs Assessment, etc. The findings will be used to revise the Title I program to meet the current needs.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Since Huntsville ISD's Title I allocation is \$500,000 or more, the district will set aside at least 1% of its Title I funds for the purpose of parent and family engagement.

Parent and family engagement funds will be divided among each Title I campus. The campus principal will consult with the Campus Advisory Committee about allowable uses of the funds. The campus principal will authorize the use of the funds designated for parent and family engagement.

EVALUATION

Huntsville ISD will work with its District Advisory Committee to evaluate the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy through:

- Parent Surveys
- Assessment data
- Identity of possible barriers that limit parent and family engagement

The district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents/families) its parent and family engagement policies.