



2020-2021 Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Revised 9.23.20

Statement of Purpose

White Settlement ISD believes learning is a shared responsibility that requires active involvement by students, staff, families and the community. The WSISD Board of Trustees, administration, teachers, support staff, families and community members will work collaboratively to create a positive learning environment for all students that:

- fosters a culture of excellence and empowers Brewer Bears to be innovators and leaders of tomorrow by providing premier education (WSISD Mission).
- develops passion to learn in every student and helps each child determine his/her purpose for the future (WSISD Vision).
- supports and engages parents in learning activities with children at home and school.
- provides frequent communication with parents/families regarding school and district activities, programs and initiatives.
- provides ongoing, two-way, meaningful communication that facilitates mutual understanding and stimulates student success.
- provides a variety of activities that encourage parents/families to be actively engaged in their student's learning.
- provides life-long learning opportunities for parents.
- provides training to staff that enhances the home/school partnership.

Develop the Policy with Families

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be developed and reviewed annually by the District Planning Committee which consists of teachers, administrators, parents, and business and community members. This group will meet a minimum of four times per academic school year to plan, implement, and review the policy.

The district will encourage participation in the DPC through personal invitations and the WSISD website.

The policy will be made available to parents/families and the community through the WSISD website.

Involve Families in Developing the Title I Plan (District Improvement Plan)

Parent volunteers on the District Planning Committee will represent the diversity of the population and one or more parents will have children participating in a Title 1 program. The committee will convene at a time and place convenient to all its members.

The committee will provide input regarding the development of the district and campus improvement plans as it pertains to parent involvement and family engagement.

The District Planning Committee, comprised of parents, teachers, administrators, community members and business representatives, will review the District Improvement Plan annually and incorporate the Parent and Family Engagement Policy into the Family and Community Involvement section of the District Improvement Plan.

Provide Coordination and Assistance to Schools

WSISD will provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist our participating schools with planning and implementing effective family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The coordination, assistance and support includes:

- Designation of a District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator.
- Including Title I Parents in their school's Campus Planning Committee so that specific matters related to Title I students can be presented and acknowledged.
- Allocating district resources to parent engagement activities.
- Designation of a Title I Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator at each Title I school.

WSISD will also provide training to enhance the skills of teachers, principals and other necessary staff in the following areas:

- The value and usefulness of parent contributions.
- How to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs.
- Building ties between parents and schools.

Build Capacity of Schools and Parents

High student achievement is the result of effective home/school/community partnerships. Family engagement activities will be scheduled throughout the school year to foster this collaboration that foster this family/school/community partnership. These include the district's Back to School Rally, Mad Scientist Night and Healthy Families Rally. Due to COVID-19, activities in which large groups of individuals attend will be postponed until the health and safety of students and families can be ensured.

The district will support activities that focus on the improvement of student achievement socially and academically. As a result, learning strategies will be shared with parents to improve student achievement and address the needs of all students.

WSISD will:

- Develop virtual opportunities that ensure family engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic. The district will also explore in person opportunities for family engagement that prioritize health and safety.
- Utilize the District Planning Committee to provide advice on all matters related to parental engagement in programs supported under this section.
- Support the schools in providing timely communication to families, ensuring that families are engaged and informed. The district will utilize a variety of communication methods including but not limited to: Skylert Messaging System; SchoolStatus; paper flyers and letters; social media; and district website. The schools will also utilize the Canvas Learning Management System and Gradebook/Skyward to communicate the educational objectives and expectations with families.
- Provide assistance to parents in how to monitor a child's progress, and how to understand state standards and assessments. The schools will have at least one parental meeting annually that educates families regarding the assessment process.
- Provide education to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy and technology. Avenues include the Canvas Learning Management System, Gradebook/Skyward, campus literacy and curriculum nights, etc.
- Provide education and communication to teachers and school personnel to help them with assisting parents, valuing the contributions of parents, working with parents as partners, and building ties between

parents and the school.

- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental engagement activities. Community organizations and businesses will be encouraged to participate in district-wide events. Various district and campus committees will include business and community representatives such as the School Health Advisory Council and the District Planning Committee. The district will also utilize the WSISD Education Foundation.
- Provide life-long learning opportunities for families as well as parent/family classes/workshops through the Family Resource Center.
- To the extent feasible, coordinate and integrate parental engagement strategies under other programs.
- Provide information to parents in a uniform and understandable format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.
- May arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct home visits.
- May adopt and implement model approaches to improving family engagement.

Coordination of Programs

WSISD will develop a partnership with other pre-school programs within the district's boundaries. Family engagement strategies will be coordinated to assist the transition from pre-school to elementary school.

WSISD will assess the needs of families and children in the community using a variety of tools including results from end-of-year campus parent surveys and an annual evaluation by the Parent and Family Engagement Committee. The district will utilize the results to develop effective programs that address needs and revise existing programs.

Annual Evaluation of Effectiveness of Parent Engagement Policy

The parent and family engagement program will implement effective family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

The district and campus will provide assistance and resources to facilitate the parental engagement program, and the District Planning Committee (DPC) will annually evaluate the content and effectiveness of the policy and its programs. Surveys, assessment data and other resources will be used to determine the needs and develop revised strategies for student success. Revisions to the District Improvement Plan and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be developed with input from the DPC then communicated to parents/families.

Reservation of Funds

White Settlement ISD is required to set aside at least 1 percent of its Title I funds for the purposes of parental engagement. Those funds (95 percent) will be divided among the Title I campuses. The campus principal will consult with the Campus Planning Committee about allowable and programmatic use of the funds. The principal will then authorize the use of the funds designated for parental engagement.

Reservation

District Title I Planning Amount:	\$1,050,306		
Required 1% Reservation:	\$ 10,503	Actual:	\$11,800
95% of the 1% Reservation:	\$ 9,978	Actual:	\$11,200