Blackshear Elementary School – A Montessori Magnet

“Where the Pride of Third Ward Begins!”  
2900 HOLMAN St. HOUSTON, TX 77004 – ph. 713-942-1481

Dr. Sukari Stredit-Thomas, Principal; Assistant Principal, Christina Mitchell

**Parent Involvement Policy**

Edward L. Blackshear Elementary encourages parents/guardians to be actively engaged in their scholar’s education. The Policy was created to assist parents with helping their scholar(s) achieve in school.  We want to ensure that all parents, including parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities, can also participate in their scholar’s education. Our first annual Title I meeting was held September 26, 2023.

The following school personnel will assist us:

* Principal
* Assistant Principal
* Teachers
* Teacher Development Specialist
* Teacher Apprentices
* Title I Coordinator
* Special Education Staff
* Instructional Assistants
* Parent Volunteers
* Community Volunteers
* Intervention Assistance Team (IAT)
* HISD Executive Director

**Policy Involvement:**   
Parents are invited to attend meetings during and after school, as well as evenings.  We encourage parents to attend one or more meetings throughout the academic school year.  During these meetings, we discuss Title I Compact, TEA mandates, requirements, rights of parents and their benefits.  We invite our HISD personnel, Executive Director and staff and community leaders to help with presentations which are presented in both English and Spanish.  The Title I Coordinator assists parents when volunteering and keeps them informed about the current educational programs at Blackshear Elementary.

**Program Involvement:**   
The parents are informed about our current Title I programs. During the spring Semester, tutorials will be held Mondays – Fridays from (3 days a week, 4:20 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.). In addition to, PAC (Parent Advisory Council), PTO (Parent Teacher Organization), there are Family Reading, Nights where parents have the opportunity to be actively involved in activities that are intended to provide parents with resources to help scholars at home.  There are 4 PAC meetings for the 2023-2024 school year:  September 26, 2023 other dates TBA.  During these meetings parents can make suggestions and share experiences with other parents and participate in decision – making that affects our scholars.    
  
**School – Parent Compact**  
The Blackshear Parent Compact, as required by law, was developed jointly with parents of participating Title I Students and explains how parents, school staff, and students will jointly share responsibility for each scholar’s success.  The school compact was sent home on September 26, 2023 and is available upon request at any time.

**Building Capacity for Involvement:**

The Title I Coordinator conducts several meetings to assist parents in finding ways they can help their children at home.  Blackshear has an annual Teacher Meet and Greet – August 25, 2023, Open House September 26,2023 and Parent – Teacher Conferences.  At PAC meetings the Title I Coordinator goes over promotion standards, explains HISD Clear (the District Curriculum), the TEKS (Texas of Knowledge and Skills).  HFWE (High Frequency Word Evaluation) List of words and standard for passing the evaluation are also provided. An explanation, by the Title I Coordinator about how teachers collaborate during PLC meetings, help parents acquire an understanding of the different ways teachers plan for instruction.  Blackshear staff, with the assistance of parents, are working hard to attain the following goals:

1. 75% of the scholars will have 5% to 10% growth between their BOY, MOY and EOY on the mClass, Dibbles, Circle and NWEA Map Assessments to have at least 15% growth by EOY.
2. 85% of Educators will be proficient or higher in delivery of instruction as measured in the Educator Evaluation Tool
3. 75% of K-5th Grade scholars will demonstrate 15% growth as measured by the Math Assessment from   
   August 2023 to May 2024 on the mClass, Dibbles, Circle and NWEA Map Assessment to have at least 15% growth by EOY
4. By May of 2024 85% of Scholars in Grades K-2nd will be proficient in math fluency sprints.

It is important to keep the parents informed about these standards and goals so they can assist us at home with our endeavor to help scholars succeed.   
  
**Parent Training and Involvement:**   
During PAC meetings the Title I Coordinator invites parents to participate in spring “Make and Take” workshops.  In these workshops, parents get to create hands –on subject based activities to take home to work on with their children on specific objectives and to play learning games.

**Accessibility:**   
It is very important for Blackshear Elementary to have parent involvement and participation. Information related to student achievement, school performance, parent programs, meetings and other opportunities for participation is sent home in English and Spanish. Parents are trained to use Grade Speed to check on their students’ progress. Parents can check their child’s weekly grades online 24 hours a day. Blackshear offers parents bi-monthly computer access for job search, Parent Connect, and access to a fax machine for business purposes. The school principal sends home a monthly newsletter informing parents of important dates.  In addition, the principal utilizes call outs to keep parents informed about weekly events and important dates. Interpreters are provided for parent conferences.  We also ensure that parents with disabilities have opportunities to participate. The school has an elevator and handicap restrooms are available in all sections of the school.