



WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Alisa Zapata, Principal

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www.westsidewolves.org

Parent Involvement Policy, 2023-2024 School Year

The mission of Westside High School is to ensure academic success in a safe diverse environment. In order to do this, we believe that building and strengthening internal and external relationships is essential. We believe that through a collaborative effort between students, teachers, school leaders, central office staff, school board, families and business partners, we can fulfill our students' dreams and ambitions.

Westside High School intends to follow the parental policy guidelines in accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The school's Parent Involvement Policy was agreed upon by a representative group of parents and teachers. Westside High school will distribute this policy to parents and students participating in the Title I program and will update this policy annually.

Our school holds numerous events that provide an opportunity to share updates with our community. In August we had our Back to School Bash. Parents and students had an opportunity to learn about the instructional programs Westside High School offers as well as the extracurricular activities available at the campus for their children. Parents met teachers, support staff, and leadership team members. Parents will learn about volunteer opportunities that they may become involved in throughout the year. In September we had our Open House. During Open House students and their parents have an opportunity to learn more detailed information regarding the academic programs offered at Westside High School. In October we hold a College Night. Students have an opportunity to meet with numerous college and university representatives to discuss expectations and requirements. In January we have a Community Open House. Parents have an opportunity to reconnect with the school and learn about upcoming events, including tutorials, testing and special motivational events the school is planning to keep the students inspired and motivated about being successful in school.

Parents also have an opportunity to meet faculty and staff in small group settings such as grade level meetings and one-on-one conferences; these conferences are scheduled during the day, evenings and/or weekend if needed. The purpose of these conferences is to provide timely information regarding the education of each child at WHS. Our campus website is also updated weekly and it contains detailed information regarding opportunities for parents to become engaged in their children's education.

WHS annually invites parents to participate in review and revision meetings to examine and discuss our School Improvement Plan and Parent Involvement Policy. An organized PTO has been established in our school to create a forum for parental input and engagement. At WHS we use a variety of communicative techniques such as our Parent/Student Handbook (Westside Way) which is on our website and also available at the front office, school marquee, letters sent home, Connect Ed (phone system), PTO meetings, e-mails, Shared Decision-Making Committee meetings, Individualized Educational Plan meetings, progress reports, report cards, deficiency plans, and individual phone calls as needed. We have also created and implemented a Parent/Student Compact. This document serves as an agreement between all parties that they will adhere to certain duties and responsibilities to ensure the success of the student. The compact will be posted on our website to remind each participant of their responsibilities.

In order to monitor the academic progress of our students we conduct common assessments, benchmark tests as well as standardized exams. The exams administered at Westside High School include the following:

Renaissance 360: Universal Screener for Mathematics and Reading



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STAAR: The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness replaced the TAKS, which is the criterion-referenced assessment program that has been in place since 2003. STAAR includes the 5 end-of-course (EOC) assessments mandated by SB 1031 in 2007.

PSAT/NMSQT: The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude/National Merit Qualifying test is a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT Reasoning Test. It also gives students a chance to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) scholarship programs. We administer the exam to juniors (fee applies) and freshmen and sophomores take a practice PSAT (paid for by a grant)

TELPAS: Under the NCLB, TEA has developed an assessment designed to assess the progress that limited English proficient (LEP) students make in learning the English language.

LTF YES (Laying the Foundations Year End Summative Assessment). Exams are given to students in the Pre-AP Math, Science and English to provide feedback regarding student progress.

Advanced Placement Exams: These exams are administered at the end of the semester and cover the entire curriculum.