



# ***Kashmere Senior High School***

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## ***Parental Involvement Policy*** **2015-2016**

If students are to be successful, their parents and guardians must be actively involved in their education. Kashmere High School has developed this policy to describe:

- How we involve parents in the development of policy and the School-Parent Compact
- How to help parents help their children be successful in school
- How to make sure parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities can participate in their children's education.

The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

*Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—*

- *That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- *That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- *That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- *That carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*

This policy was developed with the assistance and approval of the parents of children participating in the Title I program, as well as the Principal, Title I Coordinator, community members and Kashmere High School faculty and staff.

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Kashmere High School provides many opportunities to support parental involvement in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs. These opportunities include an annual meeting in September to which all parents are invited to attend to understand Kashmere High School's participation in Title I activities, requirements as outlined by Title I regulations, and the rights of the parents. Additional meetings are scheduled throughout the school year, including but not limited to four Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings, monthly School Based Decision Making Committee (SDMC) meetings and a spring State of the School Address. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information regarding implementation of programs at Kashmere High School, solicit and respond to parent suggestions, allow parents an opportunity to share experiences with one another, and to participate in decisions concerning the Title I services offered. These meetings are offered at various times of the day to accommodate schedules of parents. Meetings are advertised on the school marquee, school website, and by phone call-outs.

The School-Parent Compact was developed jointly with parents of Title I students and explains how parents, school staff, and students will all share responsibility for each student's academic success. The law requires that each compact must be developed with campus-level parental input. The Parent-School Compact:

- Describes the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive learning environment that enables the students served to meet the state's Student Academic Achievement Standards (STAAR);
- Describes ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance and homework completion;
- Describes ways in which parents will participate, as appropriate in their student's school lives, including volunteering, decisions relating to the education of their children, and extracurricular time.
- Addresses the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through:
  - Parent-Teacher conferences
  - Progress reports
  - Access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their students' classes

Kashmere High School will provide timely information about programs as well as descriptions and explanations of the curriculum in use at the school, the academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. During our PAC meetings this year, parents will be given the opportunity to submit comments, concerns, or revisions to the compact of this Parental Involvement Policy. If requested by parents, additional meetings can be scheduled to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to the education of their children.

If the school-wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit parents' comments to the Department of External Funding and revise the plan as advised by the HISD Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Program Administrator and other district designees as advised.

## **PARENT TRAINING AND INVOLVEMENT**

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the campus will build the school's and parent's capacity to influence their student's education by:

- Assisting parents in understanding STAAR testing and graduation requirements as set by the state of Texas;
- Informing parents on the best ways to monitor their student's progress and work with educators to ensure success;
- Providing materials and training to help parents work with their children, including literacy training and use of technology;
- Educating teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of the contributions of parents, and best practices for meaningful, two-way communication in order to work with parents as equal partners;
- Coordinating and integrating parental involvement programs and activities with other programs;
- Ensuring that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to parents of participating students in a format and language that parents can understand;
- Providing reasonable support for parental involvement activities, involving establishing a parent resource center.

The development of school-business partnerships that include activities for parents is encouraged. Community based organizations and businesses are given information about opportunities to work with and support parents.

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

Participation and involvement of all parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance, school and parent programs, meetings and other opportunities will be communicated in the students' home language whenever possible. Additionally translators will be available at parent meetings. Communications include, but are not limited to, announcements, phone calls, emails, letters, postcards, postings on the school website, postings on social media, as well as print and electronic newsletters. Accommodations are made for parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of migratory students, or any other circumstances that limit parent participation.

This Parental Involvement Policy will be made available to the school and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.