



John R. Harris Elementary School

J.R. HARRIS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

801 Broadway
Houston, Texas 77012
713-924-1860 fax: 713-924-1863
Jessica Rivero, Principal

2023-24 Parent Family Engagement Policy

General Expectations

John R. Harris Elementary provides our parents with an environment that fosters for all students to be successful. Our policy will accomplish this task by simultaneously working along with John R. Harris building a strong partnership with parents, students, and all stakeholders. John R. Harris will work to ensure that the required school level parental policies meet the requirement of section 1116 of Every Student Succeeds Act.

The policy will agree to implement the following:

1. Jointly develop the policy with parents.
2. Distribute to parents of participating children, to the extent practicable, and in a format and language parents can understand.
3. Provide the policy to the local community through our school's website.
4. The policy will be periodically reviewed and revised as necessary throughout the year.

The policy was developed with the assistance and approval of parents, students, teachers, and the administrative team.

Campus Policy Requirements

1. The school will convene an annual meeting on **September 29, 2023** at a convenient time to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of our school's participation under the Title I Program.
2. The school will hold a minimum of 4 meetings, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, which will be held in the mornings to accommodate parents' schedules of having to pick up other children from the middle and high schools in the evening. Our meetings will be held every Friday of the month.
3. Involve parents, in the planning, reviewing and improvements of programs under Title I Part A and with the parental involvement policy. Meetings will be posted on the school calendar, school messenger, posters in the office, and flyers will be sent home in the parent/students' home language.
4. Provide information to the parents of participating children in a timely manner about programs offered in school. The programs offered will include the in-school intervention, after school programs, after school tutorials, and fine arts programs in music and dance. Included in the



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information will be a description and explanation of the John R. Harris curriculum and the forms of academic assessments used to measure students' progress and proficiency levels the students are expected to meet. The programs offered for the parents will be the ESL classes that are offered on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week. This opportunity is for the parents to be actively involved in the education of their child while learning themselves.

5. If the school wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit parent's comments about the plan to the Department of External Funding and revise a plan as advised by the HISD Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Program Administrator and other district designees as advised to respond to the suggestions prompted by the parents as soon as practicably possible. The parents, students, community, district, and the teacher will collaboratively devise a plan to address the parents' comments to meet the satisfaction of all stakeholders.

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievements

1. A component of the school level parent and family engagement policy will be that each school served under this part shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievements and the means by which the school and parent will build and develop a partnership to help all children achieve in State's high standards for the 2023-2024 school year.

The Compact shall:

- a. Describe school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruct in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under this part to meet the State's student academic achievement standards (STAAR). The students will achieve academic achievement standards by building a relationship with the parent, student, and teacher to ensure that the students are growing in their standards.
- b. Details ways that each stakeholder will be responsible for the success of the students' learning through daily active participation on all parties. The students, parents, teachers, and administrators each have roles to support the children's learning. One key role is monitoring the attendance and regularly attending school, ensure homework is completed, and the hours of watching television is monitored and decreased. Parents and students have a responsibility of reading daily to increase students' achievements.



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- c. Details the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through at a minimum of parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff. Communication at John R. Harris is conducted through a call out system, monthly newsletters from all grade levels and department, and monthly calendars with information. Additionally, flyers are sent home to remind parents of current events approaching.
- d. Ways in which each parent will participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and positive use of extracurricular time.

Building Capacity for Involvement

- 1. To ensure effective engagement of parents and families to support a partnership among the school, parents, families, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the campus will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent/family engagement by implementing the REQUIRED POLICY ACTIVITIES. The school:
 - a. Will assist parents of the children being served in understanding the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills), STAAR (State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness), and the district's and school's assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress, and work with educators to improve achievement of their children.
 - b. Will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children, such as literacy training and using technology to foster parent and family engagement. The school will demonstrate to the parents the available apps and programs that are available for the parents to download on their home computers, laptops, or IPADs. The programs will provide academic practice in different subject areas. The different programs that the student can connect to from their HUB login. Literacy Night will be provided to the parent to inform them of the literacy programs that are available to assist with their child at home. The school will also implement an ESL class for the parents to learn English.
 - c. Will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and unity of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, & work with parents and families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents, families, and school;
 - d. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other programs, such as GradeSpeed, VIPS, ESL classes, parent center activities, and computer literacy sessions.



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- e. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- f. Provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents to be involved. The parent center is an area designated for parent volunteers to assist with school activities. During Title I meetings, parent volunteers are requested to assist with various events during the school year, such as dances, movie nights, writing camps, literacy night, math night, and various other activities.

Building Capacity for Engagement

1. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the campus will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement by implementing Optional Policy Activities and the school:
 - a. May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.
 - b. May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
 - c. May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities which also includes transportation to enable parents and families to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions. When available, the district offers parent's trainings in the form of the Parent Universities. The parents can enroll to participate at the various locations. The information will be provided to the parents during Title I meetings and through district messenger.
 - d. May train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents and family members. The parents can receive trainings through the various events that is provided by the school such as the Literacy Night, Math Night, Science Night, and various other events planned during the year.
 - e. May arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers (or other educators who work directly with participating children) and parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, to maximize parent and family engagement and participation. Title I meetings are scheduled during the morning. Several events are provided after school hours. The parents have a variety of events they can participate in at the school.



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- f. May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement. The FACE (Family and Community Engagement) department will assist the campus and parents in building the parent involvement group that is best fitted for the school's needs whether the model is PTA or PTO. The FACE (Family and Community Engagement) will collaboratively work with both groups to implement program functions to ensure a successful parent organization that is suited for both parties.
- g. May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent and family engagement activities. Valero is a business that is located in the community. Valero participates in the Mentoring program for the students. The volunteers from Valero meet with individual assigned students to communicate with and develop a bonding relationship.

Parent Accessibility

1. To ensure full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand. The school will utilize the Houston Independent School District's translation department to provide the parents with information in their language of understanding.

Sign-in Sheet and Meeting Minutes

1. Documentation of parents who jointly developed and agreed with the school's parent and family engagement policy.

September 29, 2023

Date

Laura Talley, Title Coordinator