



Durkee Elementary Parent & Family Engagement Policy

2023-2024

If students are to be successful, their parents or guardians must be actively involved in their education. Durkee Elementary developed this policy to describe how we involve parents in the development of policy and the School Parent Compact: to help parents to help their children achieve in school; and to make sure parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities can participate in their children's education. This policy was developed with the assistance and approval of the parents and teachers of children participating in the Title I program.

Policy Involvement: Each year, by the end of September, we invite the parents of all children to Meet the Teacher and Open House. During Open House we will conduct the Title I Annual Meeting where we will discuss the Title I law, its requirements, and the rights and benefits to students. We explain how parents can be involved in the planning and improvement of Title I programs, including contributing to parental involvement policy. There will be monthly meetings held for parents. All parents are encouraged to join our PTO.

Program Involvement: At these meetings we give parents timely information about our Title I programs, including reading, math, science, tutoring during the day, computer lab, after school tutoring and summer school. We describe and explain curriculum, explain our expectations for students, and explain how we measure student performance. We explain how each individual and our school is doing on state tests such as STAAR. We respond to parent suggestions and concerns.

School-Parent Compact: The School Parent Compact was developed jointly with parents and explains how parents, school staff, and students will all share responsibility for each student's academic success. The law requires that each compact be developed with campus level parental input. Building Capacity for Involvement: It is part of Durkee's role to teach parents how to help their children learn. Parents are given information about the Title I requirements, TEKS, promotion standards, and performance standards such as TELPAS and STAAR. The school will have multiple opportunities for this throughout the year, including instructional meetings hosted by the teachers to go over upcoming content and strategies, coffee with the principal, PTO meetings, and opportunities for our VIP volunteers.

Parent Training and Involvement: Presentations are done to help parents know if a child is doing well, how parents can work with teachers to help their children, and how to be involved in decision making about the education of their children. We will offer monthly parent teacher conferences to discuss progress towards goals. Materials and training are provided to help parents help their children (STAAR Night, reading meetings and workshops, family math and science nights).

Training is also given to teachers and other staff members. School staff is taught the importance of involving parents, partners, and programs for parents, and building ties between home and school. Our school strives to coordinate parental involvement activities among the different programs available to our campus. Shared parental involvement activities are sponsored whenever possible and appropriate. The development of school-business partnerships that include activities for parents is encouraged. Community based organizations and businesses are given information about opportunities for working with parents.

Accessibility participation and involvement of parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance, school and parent programs, meetings and other opportunities for participation is sent home in the home language of our students. We ensure the ability of parents with disabilities to participate by providing handicapped access to buildings where meetings are held. Interpreters and other adaptations are provided whenever needed.