

Parent and Family Engagement Policy
ESSA Section 1116
2022 – 2023 School Year

Statement of Purpose

Spring ISD is committed to working together with all parents, families, students, the community and other stakeholders to improve student academic achievement. Partnerships with parents, families and the community are vital. Therefore, Spring ISD encourages the participation of parents, guardians and family members in regular, two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. Spring ISD wants parents/guardians and/or family members to:

- Stay informed about their child's academic progress in a routine and consistent manner
- Work in partnership with school staff to help their child achieve at the highest levels
- Communicate with their child the importance of being prepared for college and a career
- Participate in appropriate decision-making opportunities to support student academic achievement

Spring ISD will reach out to all parents, guardians and family members to implement programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents, guardians and family members in programs consistent with the requirements of ESSA Section 1116. Spring ISD will utilize methods such as focus groups, Parent Advisory Council meetings and surveys to gather meaningful feedback regarding programs.

Spring ISD will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents, guardians and family members a written parent and family engagement policy. The policy will establish the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and will be incorporated into the District Improvement Plan. The parent and family engagement policy will be reviewed and revised at the start of each school year by a sub-committee of the District Parent Advisory Council. It will be adopted by and distributed to members of the full District Parent Advisory Council at the first DPAC meeting of the year, which is typically held in September. The policy will be made available to all campuses for distribution to parents, guardians and family members as well as community members immediately after adoption at the DPAC meeting. In addition, it will be placed on district and campus websites as well as official district and campus social media.

Spring ISD will involve parents, guardians and family members in jointly developing the District Improvement Plan under Section 1112. The Executive Director of Strategic Planning will gather feedback from parents and will review the District Improvement Plan during Parent Advisory Council meetings for additional feedback.

Spring ISD will provide the support necessary to assist and build the capacity of its schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The district will work with the schools and the community by providing materials, support and training to the campus Family Empowerment Liaisons and other campus personnel and collaborating with the Ministerial Alliance, Business Partner Consortium and Under One Roof partnerships.

Spring ISD will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other Federal, State

and local laws and programs that encourage and support parents, guardians and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children. Coordinated efforts include, but are not limited to, hosting various parent workshops, seminars and meetings with programs such as early childhood, multilingual, gifted and talented, and career and technical education programs.

Spring ISD will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents, guardians and family members, an annual evaluation of the parent and family engagement policy and program. Spring ISD will identify and assist in alleviating any barriers to greater participation of family members by providing translation services, child care, homework help, and a light snack to all families. In addition, Spring ISD will identify the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children and strategies to support successful school and stakeholder interactions. The annual evaluation will be conducted during the spring semester by the Department of Communications. We will review the findings with family members at the Parent Advisory Council meeting and with district and campus leaders at the Superintendent's Principal meeting.

Spring ISD will involve stakeholders in the activities of its schools and the district by establishing a District Parent Advisory Council that will be comprised of the campus Family Empowerment Liaison, two parents/family members per school, and other district-wide staff members. The District PAC will meet quarterly and will develop, revise and review the parent and family engagement policy and provide advice and reasonable support for parental engagement and empowerment activities. Stakeholders who volunteer to serve on the District PAC will share information gathered at PAC meetings with other parents at the schools in which they represent.

To ensure the effective involvement of stakeholders and to support a partnership among the schools and the community Spring ISD will offer workshops and classes to parents and families to help improve student academic success.

- Workshops include: State Assessments, Local Assessments, Schoology, Home Access Center (HAC), and social and emotional support
- Classes include: English as a Second Language (ESL), Spanish Acquisition, Computer Basics, Basic Literacy, and General Educational Development (GED)

In addition, Spring ISD will educate teachers, specialized support personnel, principals and other school leaders in the value and utility of the contributions of parents and stakeholders. Parents and family members will provide input on training materials.

Spring ISD will translate all documents in Spanish to support the 49% of households where Spanish is the first language. Materials will be provided in other languages such as Vietnamese and Urdu as requested.

Conclusion

Spring ISD is committed to ensuring that parents/guardians and/or family members are partners in all schools. Engagement is one of the district's strategic priorities and our goal is to empower parents, families, and stakeholders. These efforts will be supported by the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement program and promoted by building principals and other district and school staff.

This policy was created on September 15, 2022 and adopted on September 27, 2022 to be in effect for the 2022– 2023 school year.