

Westwood Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2020-21

1. Westwood Elementary shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of ESSA Section 1116 subsections (c) through (f). Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

****The Parent Family Involvement Policy will be distributed virtually on October 6, 2020 at PreKindergarten Family Engagement Night. Parents will also be able to locate a copy upon request at the campus at any time.**

Please note that due to Covid restrictions on campus, some of the following activities listed will be offered virtually, postponed, or canceled this year.

2. Westwood Elementary shall convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved.

****Two meetings will be held in the 2020-21 school year:**

1. October 6, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. virtually
2. April 27, 2021 at 5:00 virtually (unless otherwise advised)

3. Westwood Elementary shall offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, childcare, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

****Westwood will host the following events throughout the school year at various times to support community and family engagement. All events will be communicated through Friday Folder distribution, campus electronic newsletters, and social media avenues.**

- PTO meetings

- Parent Orientation
- Open House
- Donuts with Dads, Muffins with Moms
- Round Up Carnival and associated activities
- Literacy Night
- Pre-K Parent Information Nights
- Parent Conferences
- Skate Nights
- Student Handbook
- Book Fair Week
- Family Fun Run
- Grandparent's Breakfast
- Meet the Teacher Night

4. Westwood Elementary shall involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b) (Campus Strategic Plan), except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children.

**Westwood Elementary involves parents in shared decision making in the following ways. The campus strategic plan is reviewed and jointly developed with parent and community input at Site Based Decision Making meetings held 4 times a year. The dates of the meetings are communicated through school electronic newsletters, Friday Folders, and social media avenues.

- Site Based Decision Making Committee
- Parent Surveys
- Parent/Teacher/Student Compact
- LPAC and ARD meetings
- Superintendent Advisory Committee
- PTO

5. Westwood Elementary shall provide parents of participating children—

(A) timely information about programs under this part;

(B) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of challenging State academic standards; and

(C) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

**Westwood Elementary utilizes the following ways to inform, explain, and support parents in curriculum and student achievement levels of their child.

- Digital Citizenship Parent Information Night

- Canvas LMS as communication tool
- School and District Website with Parent Connections
- Class Newsletters
- Counselor and Nurse communications
- CLI Engage Family activities -Skyward parent portal
- Student Handbook
- Student Progress Reports
- TAPR (Texas Academic Performance Report) provided
- Home Language Surveys
- Reading Performance Reports sent home twice a year (BAS levels)

6. If the schoolwide program plan (Campus Strategic Plan) under section 1114(b) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

**Comments on the Campus Strategic Plan are encouraged and welcome. Site Based Decision Meetings will be forums used to share and discuss these suggestions and comments. All comments, suggestions, and questions can be brought to campus administration at any time through email and/or face to face meetings.

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7. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Westwood Elementary shall:

(i) provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

**Westwood Elementary and Fisd provides the following opportunities for parents to gain deeper understandings of the topics by:

- Meet the Teacher Night/Open House
- Curriculum Nights
- Pre-K Family Engagement Nights (twice a year)
- Parent- Teacher Conferences
- Site Based Decision Making Meetings

(ii) provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

**Westwood Elementary and Fisd provides the following opportunities for parents:

- Digital Citizenship Parent Information Night
- Canvas LMS as communication tool
- School and District Website with Parent Connections
- Class Newsletters

- Library book check out
- Counselor and Nurse communications
- CLI Engage Family activities -Skyward parent portal
- Student Handbook
- Student Progress Reports
- TAPR (Texas Academic Performance Report) provided
- Reading Performance Reports twice a year
- Literacy Lunch and Learn Opportunities

(iii) educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.

**Westwood Elementary and FISD support staff education and awareness in the following ways:

- Family engagement/cultural diversity training
- Evidence-based strategies professional development
- Region 4 trainings
- CLI Engage technology assistance for student assessment and implementation
- Big Day PreK curriculum training
- Balanced Literacy Training
- How to read with our children
- ELPS training

(iv) to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

** Westwood Elementary supports these efforts:

- Buddy Backpacks
- Counselor connections
- Partnerships with area churches,
- Rotary for school supply donations
- Kids Hope USA
- Lions Club vision assistance
- Food Bank
- Angel Tree
- PTO- Round Up complimentary Tickets and arm band scholarships.
- Thanksgiving dinner adoptions
- Christmas family adoptions
- Clothes & backpack donation closet
- School supply donation
- Operation School Bell
- HEB sponsorship

(v) provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may

request.