



TITLE I-A PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY 2021-2022

Solomon P Ortiz Elementary School



I. PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT

U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School is committed to providing high quality education for every child in our school. For this purpose, parent-community partnerships are essential, because neither home nor school can independently achieve this purpose. We all win if home and school work together to promote high academic achievements for our students. The role of parents, like their children's first teachers, is an extremely important role and their support is essential to their children's success. U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School attempts to include parents in all aspects of the District's Title I-A programs to create a home-school society that promotes student success.

High-academic goals for U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School students will be distributed to parents, with the expectation that all students will work toward those goals. U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School recognizes that some students may need additional assistance from Title I-A programs to achieve these goals and a commitment has been made to provide this support.

- Tutoring one by one
- Computer Tutoring in the Morning
- Extension of tutoring during the day
- Morning Reading Program
- Reading in the library in the mornings
- Daytime interventions
- Small group instruction
- Technology tutoring
- Flip Grip Instruction (Internet Tool/Platform)
- Morning Running Club
- Science Fair
- Brainsville
- Chess
- Blue Crew, Cheer, Dance
- Football
- Basketball
- Destination Imagination
- Track
- 21st Century (Drone Club, 3D Printing, Art, Music)

II. FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW OF POLICY

U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School Parent Advisory Committee, made up of parents, teachers, principals, and community members, developed the school's Family Engagement Policy. Annually U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School will form the advisory committee to review and modify the Family Engagement Policy as needed. Special attention will be paid to recruiting volunteers with the parents of child participants in Title I-A programs with the aim of having at least two parent representatives by the school on the committee. The Title I-A Policy will be displayed on each school's and district's website.

- August 2022 - May 2023 (Distribution of the Family Participation Policy of Title I-A)
- October 2022 and April 2023 (DPAC Reviews)

III. ANNUAL SCHOOL BOARD FOR TITLE I PARENTS

U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School will ensure an annual meeting for all Title I parents. These meetings should be held during the fall semester. The purpose of these boards is to provide parents with information about guides and services provided by Title I-A using Title I-A funds as indicated in this Family Participation Policy.

Family Participation Policy will be distributed to parents. Parents will be given the opportunity to offer their suggestions for any policy review. Parents may also volunteer in the district or on their school's advisory committee or both.

The annual Title I-A board will be held at accessible times to increase the opportunity for parental involvement. English-Spanish translation will be available. Parents will be notified via flyers written in both languages with the date and time of the board. They will also be contacted by phone calls by volunteer parents, parent educators and parent coordinators. All contact will be made by volunteers who speak two languages, English-Spanish.

- September - November 2022

IV. SCHOOL-PARENTS CONVENTION

According to Title I-A regulations, U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School must share responsibilities with parents for high student performance, jointly developing a school-parent-student agreement. This agreement should indicate the responsibilities that parents, school staff, and students will share to promote students' high academic achievements. Parents of the U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School will be involved in the design of these conventions. Student responsibilities may vary depending on their grade level.

All parents will receive their children's school agreement with a list of responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students will help them achieve their goals.

Parents are encouraged to discuss the school agreement with their children before they sign the document. The agreement, school-parent-student, will be displayed through each school's website.

- August 2022 May 2023 (Distribution of the School Agreement between School-Parent-Student)
- October 2022 April 2023 (DPAC Reviews)

V. TYPES OF FAMILY PARTICIPATION

U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School will provide parents with the opportunity to get involved in their children's education. U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School values parents' contributions at home as those that take place at school and in the community. Reading children at home and talking to them during family meals is as important as volunteering at school or serving on the school counseling committee. Many types of family participation are necessary in a society; school-home-community to help all children succeed. In partnership with the philosophy and mission of the Brownsville Independent School District, each school in its Improvement Plan (CIP) must include the family participation component. All parents and volunteers in the community must meet the District's Criminal Background Review Policy requirements that the State of Texas requires.

- Applications for volunteers will be accepted during the 2022-2023 school year
- Night of meeting teachers (parents will be guided in applying for volunteers in the school library)
- Type of activities:
 1. The CATCH program will give a healthy snack for parents and students of all grades
 2. School Health Fair for Parents and the Community
 3. Family learning events for each grade - parents and children working and learning together
 4. Nutrition classes for parents
 5. Walk students, parents, staff and community members to raise breast cancer awareness.
 6. Use RED for walking students, parents, staff, and community members to raise heart disease awareness
 7. Jumping the rope for your heart for parents and students
 8. Ortiz's Annual Career (Cougar) for students and their parents
 9. Heavenly Hats

VI. ADAPTING PROGRAMS TO THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Each year U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School will assess the needs of parents and children in the community through various measures, including sending parent surveys to homes so that Title I programs can be designed to meet those needs. Workshops and other programs will be available to assist the above needs. Parents will be notified of these opportunities at each school.

Parents may also call the School District Parent Involvement Department or school office to express interest in a particular workshop or topic, or to make recommendations about the program.

- September 2022 - May 2023 (Parent Needs Assessment)

VII. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOL TEACHING STAFF

U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School informs parents monthly about current activities and events through various communication methods.

Communication with parents should also include a school newsletter distributed by the school at least four times a year. Notifications sent home must be in English and Spanish. Parents will be encouraged to take the initiative and call teachers or school administrators when they have a concern or doubt. Staff will receive training in techniques to improve communication between home and school. Parents may also participate in this training.

- Monthly calendars with school events
- Marquee ads

- Weekly flyers
- Six-week newsletter
- Calls by the E-School Messenger system
- Phone Calls
- Score reports every six weeks per grade
- August 2022- May 2023 (employee training)
- Ortiz Facebook Page

VIII. EVALUATION

The District-level Title I-A advisory committee, which includes parents of Title I, Migrant, Bilingual, Special needs and Gifted and Talented students, will participate in the school review and improvement process. This committee will obtain information in different ways, including school visits and classroom observations.

Parents will also be asked for their opinion on the content and effectiveness of the family participation program under Title I-A, through an annual evaluation of that program. The evaluation will include a comprehensive review of how much parental involvement has increased, as well as the barriers, which still need to be overcome, for family involvement.

U.S. Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz Elementary School will review its family engagement policy on the basis of this annual review.

- February- March 2023 (School Needs Assessment Survey (CNA))
- March - April 2023 (Title I-A Family Participation Survey)