

SWEENY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY 2018-2019

Statement of Purpose

The Sweeny Independent School District is committed to providing a high quality education to every student in the district. Sweeny ISD will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with 1118 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

- Consistent with section 1118, the Sweeny ISD will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESSA.
- Sweeny ISD will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its Sweeny ISD district plan developed under section 1112 of the ESSA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parent of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Sweeny ISD will encourage parental involvement through the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning and that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school. Our parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child along with various activities in Sweeny ISD.

Sweeny ISD will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve students' academic achievement and school performance

Parent Involvement in Developing the Policy

Annually, all Title I schools will convene a meeting to which all parents and family members of participating students are invited. Parents and member of the community will be informed of the school's participation in the Title I program and of the right of the parents and families to be involved in school activities and program planning for Title I.

Sweeny ISD will invite a diverse parent population that is representative of the student body to participate in parent and family engagement activities.

Sweeny ISD will attempt to plan meetings that will be at convenient times and locations to help increase parent and family participation.

School-Parent Compacts

According to Title I guidelines, each Title I campus must develop a School-Parent Compact with the parents of students participating in the program. This compact will enable the school and parents to share responsibility for their children's education. The compact must explain how students, parents, and staff will share responsibility for student performance and success.

Elementary teachers will meet with all parents in order to discuss the compact. Parents will be provided with a copy of the compact detailing the responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students have in helping students succeed academically. The signatures of parents, students, teachers, and administrators will help ensure the commitment to educational excellence. Parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact with their children.

Types of Parent/Family Involvement and Engagement

Sweeny ISD will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following:

- Parents may contribute through volunteer programs;
- Parents may participate by attending school meetings at a variety of times;
- Parents are invited to serve on various committees;
- Parents are invited to attend trainings with educators'
- Parents are surveyed to get their input about school

Sweeny ISD through its Needs Assessment and District Improvement Plan process will use the findings of the annual evaluation to design and incorporate objectives that will lead to more effective parental involvement. The District Planning Council will annually review the District Parent and Family Engagement Policy based on the results of annual review information.

Parents will be informed of school activities through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. The district website, teacher communication, the school marquee, conferences, personal contact, phone calls, emails, and written notices will be used to establish and maintain open lines of communication with parents. The district will welcome and respond to efforts by parents to communicate with the school.

Sweeny ISD will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Sweeny ISD will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying:

- Barriers to greater participation by parents/families in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
- The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
- Strategies to support successful school and family interactions;

Sweeny ISD will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics and with materials such as the following:

- The State's academic content standards
- The State's students' academic achievement standards,
- The State and local academic assessment including alternate assessment
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- Materials to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement

This policy was adopted by Sweeny District Planning Council in 2018-2019 School Year.

