

Lamar Elementary School

Parent & Family Engagement Policy

At Lamar Elementary School, we recognize that parental involvement is a pivotal aspect of effective schooling. The school and the home cannot be looked at in isolation from one another; families and schools need to collaborate to help children adjust to the responsibilities of being successful students. Research has shown that parental involvement plays a vital role in student achievement and conduct.

The staff at Lamar Elementary School believes that we should help parents develop skills to meet the basic obligations of family life and foster conditions at home that emphasize the importance of education and learning. Two-way communication about school programs and students' progress is promoted due to the belief that education is a responsibility shared with parents. Parents are invited to actively participate in school decision-making through our Campus Improvement Committee, and regular feedback is welcomed from all stakeholders. Parents are also encouraged to develop their leadership skills in governance and advocacy by attending school board meetings and getting involved in the Parent Teacher Association.

Lamar Elementary also promotes the following values:

- **Be Safe**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Responsible**

We encourage students to accept responsibility and demonstrate respect for themselves others and the environment. Through our EBIS initiative we are also encouraging a positive environment in which students can express their voice, learn and flourish. Students are also encouraged to use collaboration and available resources to solve day to day problems, building their resilience.

Through conferences, Parent Square, weekly newsletters, and Ascender Parent Portal, parents are provided with timely information about curriculum, assessments, and student proficiency levels. These ensure that the school remains focused on our primary responsibility to provide a high-quality curriculum and instructional programming in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables all students to meet academic expectations set forth in the Texas State Standards.

At Lamar Elementary School, we believe that the parents have the responsibility and opportunity to work with the school in a mutually supportive and respectful partnership with the goal of helping their children succeed in school. We are committed to increasing parental involvement, which will ultimately improve student achievement.

PART I **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Lamar Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school will jointly develop with parents, distribute to parents of participating children, a Parent and Family Engagement Policy that the school and parents of participating children agree on.

- The school will notify parents about the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, will distribute this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand.

- The school will make the Parent and Family Engagement Policy available to the local community on the campus webpage.

- The school will periodically update the Parent and Family Engagement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

- The school will adopt the school's Parent/Teacher Student Compact as a component of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

PART II **DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL** **IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENTAL** **INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. Lamar Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

- On an annual basis, the Campus Improvement Committee will revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy with input from parents and community members.

2. Lamar Elementary will take the following actions to distribute to parents of participating children and the local community, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy:

- During fall parent conferences the Parent/Teacher Student Compact, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the Parent and Family Engagement Events Calendar will be discussed.
- The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be published on the district's website.

3. Lamar Elementary will update periodically its Parent and Family Engagement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school:

- The Campus Improvement Committee will annually review the Parent and Family Engagement Policy for any issues to include but not limited to academic achievement, safety needs, and program needs.

4. Lamar Elementary will convene two annual Title 1 meeting.

- Notification will be sent home prior to the meetings. The meetings will take place at the beginning of the year during our Open House Event and during a ZOOM conference.

5. Lamar Elementary will provide information about Title I Programs to parents of participating children in a timely manner.

- For the 2023-2024 school year, the campus will be using Title I funds to provide struggling students with Reading and Math support from Intervention Teachers/Staff. Including the use of two intervention teachers and two instructional aides.

6. Lamar Elementary will provide to parents of participating children a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the form of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students

are expected to meet:

- Summaries of grade level standards will be presented and discussed by each teacher at Fall parent conferences.
- Results of district and state assessments will be made available to parents via progress reports and/or parent conferences.

7. Lamar Elementary will incorporate the Parent/Teacher Student Compact as a component of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy:

- The Parent/Teacher Student Compact will be reviewed annually by the Campus Improvement Committee.
- The Parent/Teacher Student Compact will be distributed and reviewed with parents and students at Fall Parent Conferences.

8. Lamar Elementary will submit to the district any parent comments if the school wide plan is not satisfactory to parents of participating children:

- The parents will be directed to write a letter to the Principal with their concerns.

PART III

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

9. Lamar Elementary will build the schools and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- The campus will encourage participation of adult role models through the Watch DOGS program and all family members at all school activities.
- The campus will encourage and utilize parents as volunteers in classrooms to support teachers in material management, individual reading support, science lab support, etc.

10. Lamar Elementary will incorporate the Parent/Teacher School Compact as a component of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

- The Parent/Teacher School Compact will be discussed by all the stakeholders at Fall parent conferences.

11. Lamar Elementary will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school.

- Parents are always welcome to join in activities on campus before, during, and after school.

12. The school, with assistance of the district, will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

13. The school will, with the assistance of its parents and the district, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Annual training during August training dates.

14. The school will conduct an annual survey to gauge parent and family engagement and ensure communication and implementation of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy has taken place.

- Conducted Annual in May and used to help develop next year's policy.

PART IV **ADOPTION**

This Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by minutes of:

- Lamar Elementary CIC Meeting, August 16, 2023

This policy will be adopted by Campus Improvement Committee on August 16, 2023 and will be reviewed annually each fall.

This school will inform and distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children during Fall parent conferences.

It will be made available to the local community in October. Lamar Elementary notification to parents of this policy is found in the Parent/Teacher School Compact in a language the parents can understand.