

## Sierra Blanca Independent School District

Entering a new era of excellence

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### Sierra Blanca Parent and Family Engagement/LEA Policy 2023-2024 School Year

Sierra Blanca ISD will reach out to all parents and family members and implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents and family members in programs consistent with the requirements of ESSA Section 1116. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with the parents of participating children.

#### Section 1 – Reaching Out To Parents

- District will host an annual meeting at the beginning of the school year to inform parents of the district's participation in the Title I Program. The district will inform the parents of the planned use of Title I funds and seek input from the parents on the school district and family partnerships. The district will also host a spring meeting. The superintendent will arrange various times for parents to provide input at the request of parents who are unable to attend any of the scheduled meetings.
- District will host a spring meeting in which parents and community members will have an opportunity to review the previous school year's plan and make suggestions about improving for the next school year and offer ideas about the effectiveness of the previous year's plan and to make suggestions for the new year's plan. Parents and community members will be involved in the District/Campus Improvement Planning Committee. If parents do not approve of the plan that is submitted, parent comments will be submitted along with the plan.
- District will host a variety of district/community celebrations and events to enable parents and staff members to interact in an informal atmosphere to promote collegiality among all. Examples of past events have included Meet the Teacher/Back to School, Book Fall Festival, Book Fairs, Spring Planning Meeting, and a plethora of athletic events.

**Section 2:** Sierra Blanca receives Title I, Part A funds and utilizes those funds to ensure that our students get a strong beginning to their school careers by providing a full-day Prekindergarten program in conjunction with Education Service Center Region 19 Head Start program. Our goal is to plan and implement effective parent and family involvement activities across the district to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Therefore, will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. Section 1116 (a)(2)

- The policy will establish the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement.
- The policy shall be incorporated into the local educational agency's plan developed under section 1112 (District Improvement Plan, DIP),
- The Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact will be distributed to parents at fall student registration and will be included in registration packets for students enrolling throughout the year.
- The Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact will be reviewed at the spring meeting referenced above in which the district seeks parent input about the district improvement planning process.
- The Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact will be posted on the district's website at <https://www.sierrablancaisd.net/parents/required-postings/parent-engagemet-plan>

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**Section 3:** Sierra Blanca ISD will: involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan (DIP/CIP) under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).

- The District/Campus Improvement Plan will be reviewed at the spring meeting when the district will begin formulating plans for improvement in the following school year.

**Section 4:** Sierra Blanca ISD will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of our school in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

- District will seek meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
- District will receive training in effective parent involvement strategies from Education Service Center Region 19.
- District coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs, including public preschool programs.
- District will join Shared Service Agreements (particularly those through Education Service Centers and the 588 Special Education Cooperative) in order to utilize a broader base of resources for our families.
- District 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 engagement by parents 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;
  - strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- Sierra Blanca ISD will use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies.
- Sierra Blanca ISD will seek the guidance of our Education Service Center support personnel from Region 19 and Region 12 to identify and train personnel and parents on evidence-based strategies for effective parent and community engagement.
  - Sierra Blanca ISD will assist families by:
    - providing materials, training, support, and technical assistance to campus personnel and parents to improve student academic achievement in literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, and technology;
    - providing full opportunities for participation of parents with children of limited English proficiency, parents of students with disabilities, and parents of migratory children by providing information, training, and reports, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand; and
    - assuring that campuses will provide annual training to educate teachers and other staff members on the value of parent contributions and collaboration.

**Section 5:** To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, shall:

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- The District will provide assistance to parents of children served by the local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of the parent and family engagement program, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- District will send a letter at the end of the first grading period to parents about the availability of information on
  - TEKS Resource System
  - STAAR Resources
  - Local Assessments and Progress Monitoring
- District will provide training during the beginning of the year inservice training sessions that address educating teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff (with the assistance of parents, on the value and utility of contributions of parents) on 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;
- District will ensure that information (including this policy) related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. At this time, information will be provided in English and Spanish. The District utilizes fliers, the district website, letters, Class Dojo and our school's Facebook page to help parents receive the information they find convenient.

El distrito se asegurará de que la información (incluida esta política) relacionada con la escuela y los programas para padres, las reuniones y otras actividades se envíe a los padres de los niños participantes en un formato y, en la medida de lo posible, en un idioma que los padres puedan entender. En este momento, la información se proporcionará en inglés y español. El distrito utiliza volantes, el sitio web del distrito, cartas, Class Dojo y la página de Facebook de nuestra escuela para ayudar a los padres a recibir la información que consideren conveniente.

Sierra Blanca ISD remains dedicated to the district mission: SBISD will become a premier school district recognized for providing excellence in teaching, learning, and student success! We recognize the opportunities that appropriate application of Title I Funds and the engagement and encouragement of family involvement in our schools are key in turning our mission into reality.

District Official: *Ronni L McGraw* Date June 6, 2023