



2015 – 16 Waco ISD District Wide Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Waco ISD agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Waco ISD will conduct programs, activities and procedures to involve parents in all programs. The programs will be planned with parents of participating children.
- Waco ISD will work with each Title I school to assure the campus PI Policy meets all requirements, including a home-school compact.
- Waco ISD will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into the District Improvement Plan
- Both the district and schools will provide all opportunities to participate in parent involvement activities for limited English speakers, parents with disabilities, parents of migrant children in a language and format understandable to the parent.
- Parents who do not agree with the Title I district improvement plan may submit in writing a complaint, which will be submitted with the district improvement plan to the Texas Education Agency.
- Parents will be involved in the decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- Waco ISD will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) that 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;

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Waco ISD will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan:
 1. Create a District-wide ESEA Parent Advisory Committee comprised of campus and district staff, parents, and community members
 - a. Committee will meet semi-annually at a minimum
 2. Reports will be made to QDAC (Quality District Advisory Committee) for additional input
2. Waco ISD will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

Each campus establishes a Campus Decision Making Committee, which includes staff, parents, community, and business members. The CDMC, a school advisory committee, provides input for school improvement and regularly reviews the school processes and programs.
3. Waco ISD will provide the following support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
 1. The District will provide annual training on Title I Parent Involvement Requirements to campus administrators and Parent Involvement Coordinators
 2. Create and maintain a calendar of District-wide Parent /Family Engagement events.
 3. District and Campus Parent Involvement Coordinators attend regular meetings for: professional development, collaboration, networking, and planning.
 4. Waco ISD will conduct district-wide, specialized events throughout the school year.
4. Waco ISD will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and strategies with other programs by:
 1. Reviving the Administrative Parent Involvement Committee is comprised of program directors from Waco ISD and other community organizations.
5. Waco ISD will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools.

The District will survey parents in English and Spanish.

1. An online survey of parents will help evaluate the District Parent Involvement Policy and activities.

2. A paper/online parent survey will help campuses evaluate their parent involvement policies and activities.
 3. The ESEA Parent Advisory Council will review survey results and revise the Parent Involvement Policy at the Spring meeting.
6. Waco ISD will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities:
- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - the State's academic content standards
 - the State's student academic achievement standards
 - the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - the requirements of Title I, Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators:
 - Parent Conferences: workshops for parents and teachers
 - District-wide parent meetings presented by the Curriculum Department
 - District-wide parenting workshops
 - ESEA Parent Advisory Committee
 - English Language Learner parent-student night – make and take activities
 - Workshops on how to be involved in your child's education
 - Parent education
 - B. Waco ISD will, with the assistance of its schools, 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, by:
 - Parent literacy program
 - Literacy training (age appropriate books, specifically reading-aloud)
 - Reading strategies and games
 - Make and take activities
 - Advanced math terminology and resources
 - Technology training for parents /students
 - Provide district-wide awareness and training for Parent Portal access
 - Inform parents how they can help their children's learning at home
 - C. Waco ISD will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
 - Communication: parents need to be contacted as soon as a student is failing
 - Public notifications about meetings, trainings
 - Each campus provides training for all staff on the importance of parent involvement
 - The district team will create a district-wide training for all employees on:
 - How to communicate with parents
 - Parent-Conferences

- Meet the teacher and conference events
- Parental involvement meetings with an agenda
- College night
- Volunteer recognition

D. Waco ISD will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even Start, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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, by:

- Monthly meetings
- Waco ISD app for the smartphone: District notifications and WISD website
- Pre-K/K Round-up

E. Waco ISD will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- All communication will be translated in Spanish, where applicable.
- Postal Mail
- Email
- Text messages
- Send notifications home with student
- Call outs in both languages, for all schools
- Office staff trained in customer service