



# **School Parent, Guardian, and Family Engagement Policy 2025-2026**

## **School: Whitewater Middle School**

### **I. Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

A. The Whitewater Middle School administrative team, staff, and parents believe that the achievement of our students, both academically and socially, is a collaborative effort. The administrative team and staff communicate and work together with families and community partners to ensure that the needs of our families are met throughout the school year. This Parent and Family Engagement Policy was written by a team of administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and guardians who participate in our monthly School Leadership Team meetings.

Members of our School Improvement Team, Parent Teacher Association, and Community Partners were nominated to provide input on our Parent, Guardian, and Family Engagement Policy for the 2025-2026 School Year.

### **II. Annual Information Meeting**

Title I meetings are presented annually, and our most recent meeting was held on September 25, 2025. This meeting was held in conjunction with Curriculum Night, and Title I information was shared via brochure, video replay and on our school website. Title I presentations were created in English and Spanish and are posted on our school website in the Title I section.

### **III. Flexible meeting times**

A. Our parent and family engagement activities will be held in person, with some virtual opportunities offered depending on the event. We will work together as a school to establish flexible times and meeting dates for our families so they can participate in school activities at times that are convenient for their schedules. Family engagement activities will be scheduled during the school day and after school so families can participate in these activities at times that are most convenient for them. Our school has designated October 2, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for parent conferences. Virtual options will be available and will be scheduled with our school counselors. Families may also request to meet with teachers via Microsoft Teams or a telephone conference if they are unable to attend in-person meetings and events.

### **IV. Title I Part A Planning**

A. The administrative team, support staff, and teachers at Whitewater Middle School use a variety of methods to communicate with families. The following are ways parents and families can expect to hear from their child's teacher this year:

- A) Social Networks:** Parents are encouraged and asked to join and follow our Whitewater Middle School Facebook and Instagram pages.
- B) Open House:** Parents are invited to attend the open house for their child's grade level on August 19th. Open houses are scheduled as follows:  
6th Grade 2:00 p.m.  
7th/8th Grade 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- C) Gator Gear Up: 6th grade:** Incoming 6th grade students and their parents are invited to attend 6th Grade Gator Gear Up, where they can tour the school, visit their classrooms, and learn and practice the daily schedule.
- D) ParentsSquare:** Administration, school support staff, and classroom teachers will provide daily and weekly updates, as needed, to families through ParentSquare. Parents are encouraged to join ParentSquare to better communicate with their child's teacher and receive important updates, announcements, and information from Whitewater Middle School.
- E. Canvas Messages:** Parents are asked to sign up as parent observers for their child's CANVAS courses so they can monitor their child's progress and communicate with their child's teacher if they have any concerns or questions.
- F. Infinite Campus Parent Portal:** Parents are asked to log into their child's account so they can check their child's assignments, attendance reports, grades, and other items.

## **V. Information and opportunities for parents**

**A.** Parents will receive information and opportunities to participate in their children's learning at Whitewater Middle School in a variety of ways. These are listed below:

- Title 1 Annual Meeting: Information about our Title 1 Program will be shared at this meeting on September 19, 2024. This information will be presented in English and Spanish.
- Attend monthly School Leadership Team meetings: Parents will be informed about school performance and data trends, as well as what we are doing as a school to improve learning outcomes for all students.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences: Parents are asked to attend these conferences, held in the fall and spring of each year, to monitor their children's progress.
- ParentSquare: Parents are encouraged to join these apps to receive regular communication from their child's teacher and school.
- Volunteer: Parents are asked to volunteer to participate in classroom and school activities, as well as chaperone field trips. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to build relationships with their child's teacher and form a strong partnership with the school and the surrounding community. All volunteers must complete a background check and registration form. Call the school at (980) 344-3400 for more information on how to become a CMS volunteer.
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- Join our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA): Parents are encouraged to attend and join our PTA. PTA meetings will be held once a month.

## **VI. School-Family Pact**

A. The School-Family Compact will be posted and made available to parents on our school website and through ParentSquare, where parents can digitally sign it. Parents/guardians and students are asked to read and digitally sign the School-Family Compact. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher if they have any questions about the information contained in the School-Family Compact.

## **VII. Develop the capacity for participation of parents and families**

A. Communicating with parents and families about how to best support their children at home with their learning and social-emotional development is part of our mission at Whitewater Middle School. Parents can receive information about this by attending parent-teacher conferences, communicating with classroom teachers, and our support staff.

B. Teachers will maintain evidence of communication with parents by keeping a parent contact log.

C. The PTA and student support teams will plan programs and activities to assist our parents and provide them with what they need based on the information and feedback received at monthly meetings.

D. We will also work to develop partnerships with community sponsors and faith-based organizations to meet the needs of our families throughout the school year.

## **VIII. English Learners and Parents and Families with Disabilities**

A. Our ML, EC, and Disability Extension teachers will attend all school-wide events and provide enhanced communication with these families to address any immediate concerns they may have.

## **IX. Parent/Family Requests**

A. Teachers will be the first line of contact and support for our parents and families. Our student support team (social worker, school counselors, school communities) will also work together to flexibly plan activities and programs based on the needs of our students and families.

## **X. Annual Evaluation**

- A. A survey will be conducted in the spring of 2026 to evaluate the effectiveness of this policy. We will gather feedback from families to determine what can be done to improve our parent and family engagement. We will use the feedback and input provided by families to make adjustments and improvements to our parent and family engagement for the 2026-2027 school year..

## **XI. Other parent and family engagement practices**

As a Title I school, Whitewater Middle School specifically invites and encourages parents to be actively involved in their children's education. The following are planned parental involvement activities for the 2025-2026 school year.

- Parents will receive a copy of the Parental Involvement Policy (this document) which describes the ongoing activities undertaken to inform and involve parents in their children's education.
- Parents will receive a digital copy of the Parent-School Learning Compact. This compact serves as an agreement between a child's home and their school that outlines everyone's responsibility to support students' ongoing learning.
- Weekly parent updates, tips on how to work with your child, and other information will be sent through ParentSquare to provide opportunities to empower parents to help their children succeed in school.
- As a school, we will work to provide students with athletics, extracurricular activities, and organizations: Student Technology Team, Student Government Association, Right Moves for

Youth, Communities in Schools, Math Olympiad, E-STEM and AVID, sponsored events, and others. Parents are encouraged to participate in these opportunities as well.

- This year's parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for October 2, 2025. As needed, teachers and counselors will work to schedule time with parents to review their child's progress and answer any questions they may have.
- The school will translate documents sent to parents and will have interpretation available when necessary to facilitate communication between parents and staff, the school, and the home.
- Every Sunday, a ParentSquare message is sent home to ensure parents are informed about what's happening at school and to strengthen communication between parents and the school. This message is presented in each recipient's preferred language.
- Parents are encouraged to participate and be part of the School Improvement Team, the Parent-Teacher Association, and other school activities.
- Surveys will be used throughout the year to assess parent perceptions, concerns, and needs. As a school, we will use the feedback we receive to improve services schoolwide, including elements related to our Title I Program.
- The Whitewater Middle School PTA and Student Support Team will host various events throughout the school year aimed at increasing parent involvement.
- During the 2025-2026 school year, Whitewater High School will focus on providing high-quality instruction and customer service. We will strive to be responsive to the needs of parents, students, and our broader community in an effort to provide a welcoming environment for all.
- We invite you to call the school (980-344-3400) to ask questions or to schedule a visit or meeting. We hope your child(ren) has a wonderful learning experience at Whitewater Middle School.